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Shandong University Students' Views on Homosexuality

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SHANDONG UNIVERSITY STUDENTS' VIEWS ON HOMOSEXUALITY

JOSEPH E. MILLER

HONORS PROJECT

Submitted to the Honors College
at Bowling Green State University in partial
fulfillment of the requirements for graduation with

UNIVERSITY HONORS

1 March 2015

Dr. Yiju Huang, Asian Studies

Dr. Walter Grunden, History

Introduction

Relatively little research currently exists on the subject of homosexuality and LGBT rights within the present People's Republic of China. Homosexual behavior itself has only been legal since 1997 with the repeal of the hooligan law, and it was only removed from the Chinese Psychiatric Association's list of disorders in 2001.¹ While a few studies are beginning to examine current Chinese attitudes toward the subject of homosexuality, such as Cao Hui, Wang Peng, and Gao Yuanyuan's intercollegiate study on perceptions of homosexuality², it is not yet enough to get a rounded view of the subject, and more research must be done in order to provide more accurate data. It is to this purpose that I have conducted this survey of Shandong University students, in order to add to the existing data on Chinese university students' perceptions of and attitudes towards homosexuality. This paper will present the data obtained from the survey, highlighting patterns within the data and providing comparisons based on three separate variables: parents' occupation, gender identity, and major at university. The goal of this paper is not to provide analysis as to why these students answered in the way that they did, but rather to

¹ Steffi Lau, "Homosexuality in China," USC US-China Institute, last modified 10 Mar 2010, accessed 23 Feb 2015. http://www.uschina.usc.edu/w_usci/showarticle.aspx?articleID=14740&AspxAutoDetectCookieSupport=1

² Hui Cao, et. al., "A Survey of Chinese University Students' Perceptions of and Attitudes Towards Homosexuality," *Social Behavior and Personality: An International Journal* 38, No. 6 (2010): 721-728, accessed 23 Feb 2015. <http://0-www.ingentaconnect.com.maurice.bgsu.edu/content/sbp/sbp/2010/00000038/00000006/art00001>

add one more resource on the subject for future researchers to examine and analyze.

Current State of Homosexuality in China

In order to gain an appreciation for the need behind this type of research, and to have a basic understanding of the environment from which the students are responding to the survey questions, I will briefly outline the current state of homosexuality within the People's Republic of China. As stated on the previous page, homosexuality has been legal only since 1997, and the current atmosphere in the country has been compared to the 1960s United States by Walter Williams, a University of Southern California professor studying gender and sexuality in Asia.³ Yet while homosexuality is de jure legal in China, those within the LGBT community face continuing discrimination and harassment. The 2014 report on China released by the Human Rights Watch organization notes that in addition to the country still lacking same-sex marriage and partnership laws, it also lacks legislation to protect LGBT citizens from discrimination based on gender identity and sexual orientation, both within the workplace and without.⁴ And while the federal government has adopted a policy known as "don't support, don't oppose, don't promote,"⁵ police

³ Lau, "Homosexuality in China."

⁴ "World Report 2014: China," Human Rights Watch, 2014, accessed 23 Feb 2015.
<http://www.hrw.org/world-report/2014/country-chapters/china>

⁵ "亚洲同志: 项目中国国别报告," United Nations Development Program and USAID (Bangkok, 2014): 22, accessed 23 Feb 2015.

harassment has continued to be an issue, such as Changsha city authorities arresting Xiang Xiaohan, an organizer of the 2014 pride parade, for holding an “illegal march”⁶ or raids on venues of the Beijing LGBT conference in 2013.⁷ While these incidents highlight continued government hostility toward the LGBT community, other examples demonstrate the underlying social antagonism toward homosexuality, such as the Beijing LGBT Resource Center being forcibly evicted in both 2012 and 2013 by its landlord.⁸ The same year that Human Rights Watch documented this, the Shanghai Daily newspaper released the results of its poll on controversial topics of 3500 citizens, which showed that 68.5% found homosexuality to be “unacceptable.”⁹

The overall picture gained on homosexuality in the present People’s Republic of China is one of both negatives and positives. Steffi Lau’s article “Homosexuality in China” focuses on the progress that has been made in the country since decriminalization in 1997, noting increased internet resources and growing LGBT communities and events in larger cities. Yet government harassment continues to be a problem faced by those fighting for LGBT rights, and societal attitudes as a whole are still mostly negative towards homosexuality.

<http://www.cn.undp.org/content/dam/china/docs/Publications/UNDP-CH-PEG-Being%20LGBT%20in%20Asia%20China%20Country%20Report-CN.pdf>

⁶ “World Report 2014: China,” Human Rights Watch.

⁷ World Report 2013: China,” Human Rights Watch, 2013, accessed 23 Feb 2015. <http://www.hrw.org/world-report/2013/country-chapters/china>

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ Wen Zhao, “68.5% Find Homosexuality ‘Unacceptable,’” *Shanghai Daily*, 26 Dec 2013, accessed 23 Feb 2015. <http://www.shanghaidaily.com/national/685-find-homosexuality-unacceptable/shdaily.shtml>

Survey Methods

The aim of this survey was to discover the attitudes of Shandong University students towards homosexuality, its current status in China, and homosexual marriage, as well as to provide comparative data dividing respondents by parents' occupation, gender identity, and major at university. The survey was conducted in 2014 and given to a total of 183 Chinese university students at both the Central Campus and the Hongjialou Campus of Shandong University in Jinan, China. Survey questions were written in Chinese, and separated into three categories: six on homosexuality, four on homosexuality in China, and three on homosexual marriage, giving a total of thirteen. In addition students were asked to provide their age, gender identification, hometown, parents' occupation, and major at university.

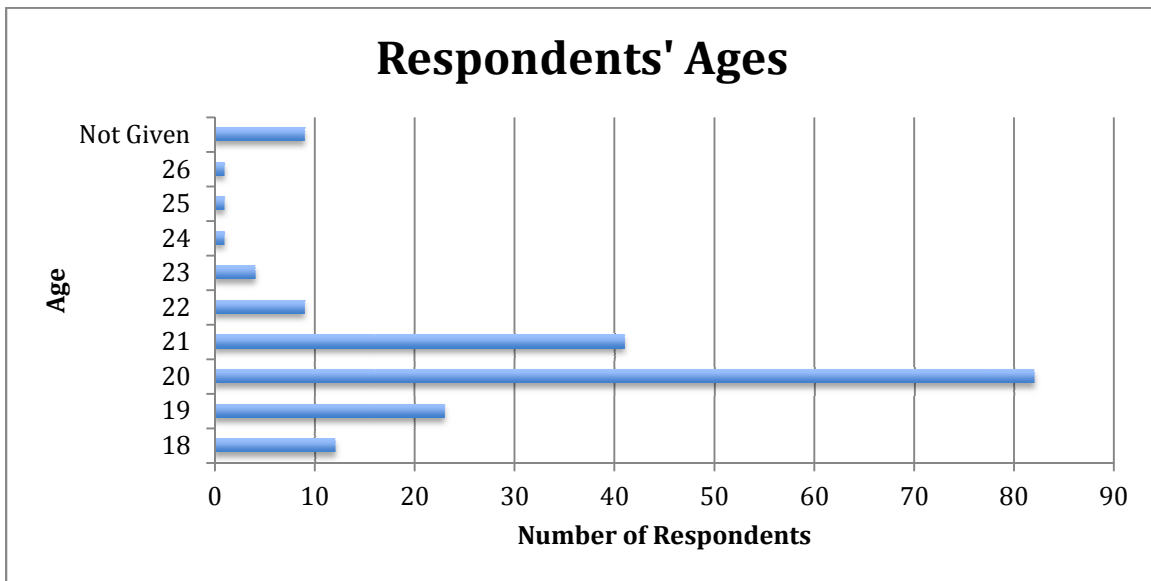
Of the questions, all are multiple choice except for two write-in answer questions under the "Homosexuality in China" category, and a combination multiple choice and write-in answer question under the same category. Results for multiple choice questions were recorded by the answer number the respondent had chosen, and then percentages were calculated of those who answered a particular number. For write-in answer questions, respondents' answers were grouped into categories and the percentage of those who had answered within each category was calculated. Each question will be presented first in its original Chinese, then in English, followed by the percentage graphs of the answers given by respondents – first overall, then divided by parents' occupation, gender identity, and major at university.

The survey had several limits to it, which may affect the data obtained as results. First, only students from Shandong University's Central and Hongjialou campuses were surveyed, resulting in the predominance of the majors in which each campus specializes. Additionally, the survey was limited only to those Chinese who were currently students at Shandong University during 2014, limiting the age range to eighteen to twenty-three, with twenty-four, twenty-five, and twenty-six being three single-occurrence outliers. Finally, the focus of this survey was solely upon female and male homosexuals and same-sex couples, and did not include other groups under LGBTQ+.

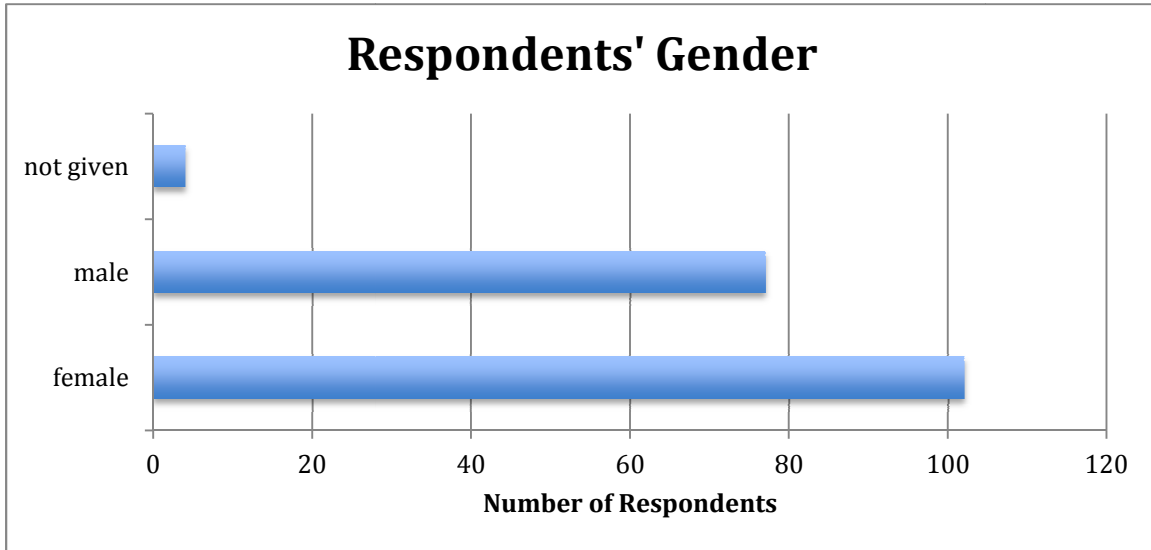
Respondents Information

Total Number of Respondents: 183

Age:

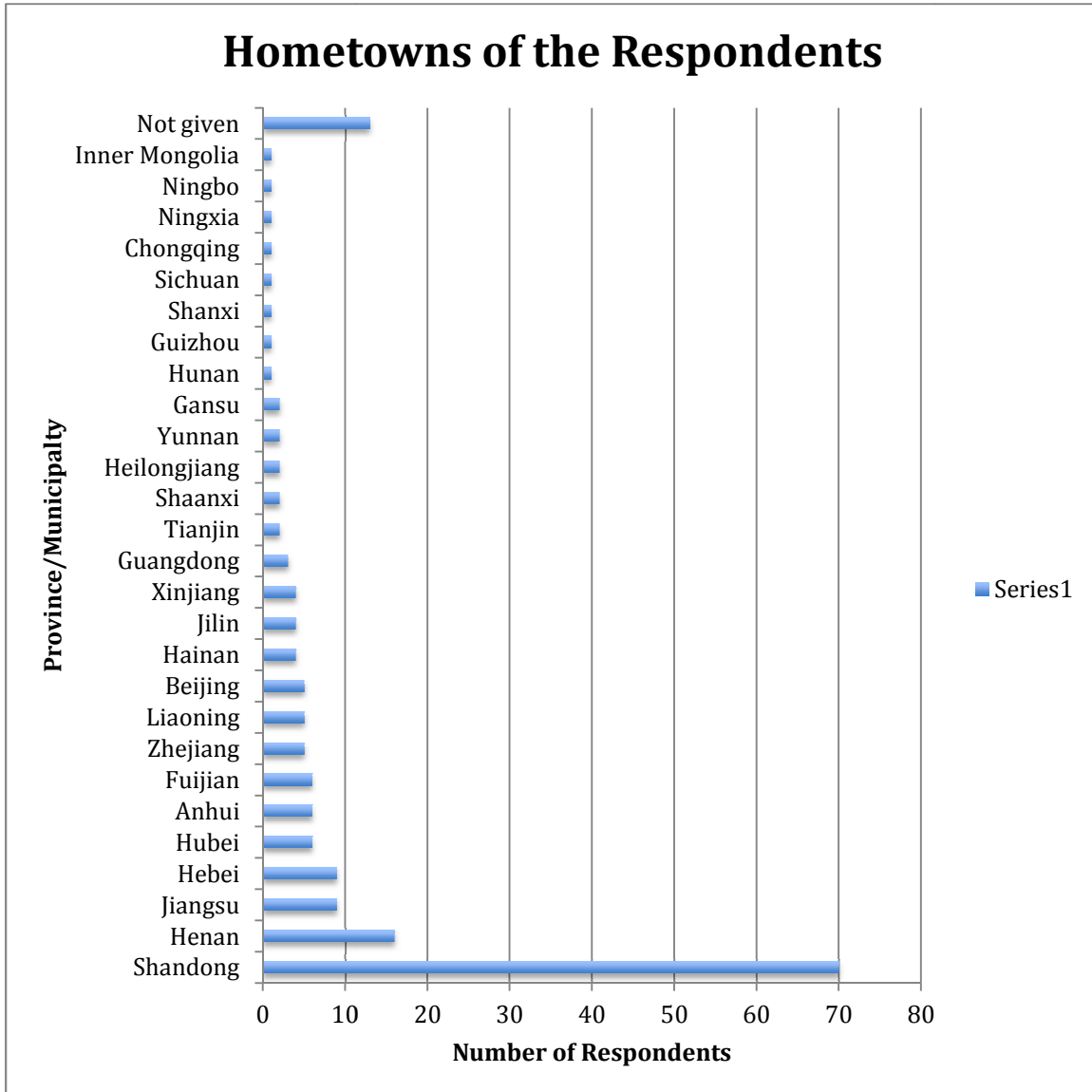


As previously noted, three respondents aged twenty-four, twenty-five, and twenty-six respectively represent outliers beyond the standard ages within the data. Nine respondents chose not to provide their age.

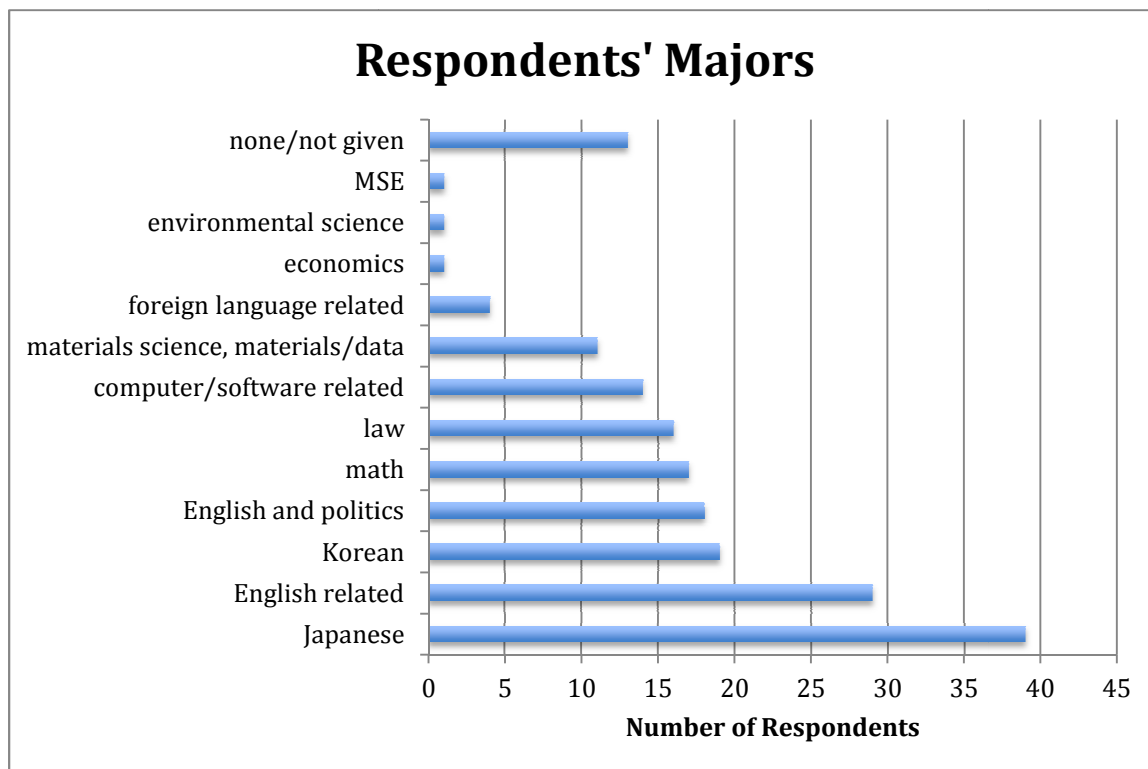
Gender Identity:

A total of 102 female respondents were surveyed and 77 male respondents. Four respondents chose not to provide their gender identity.

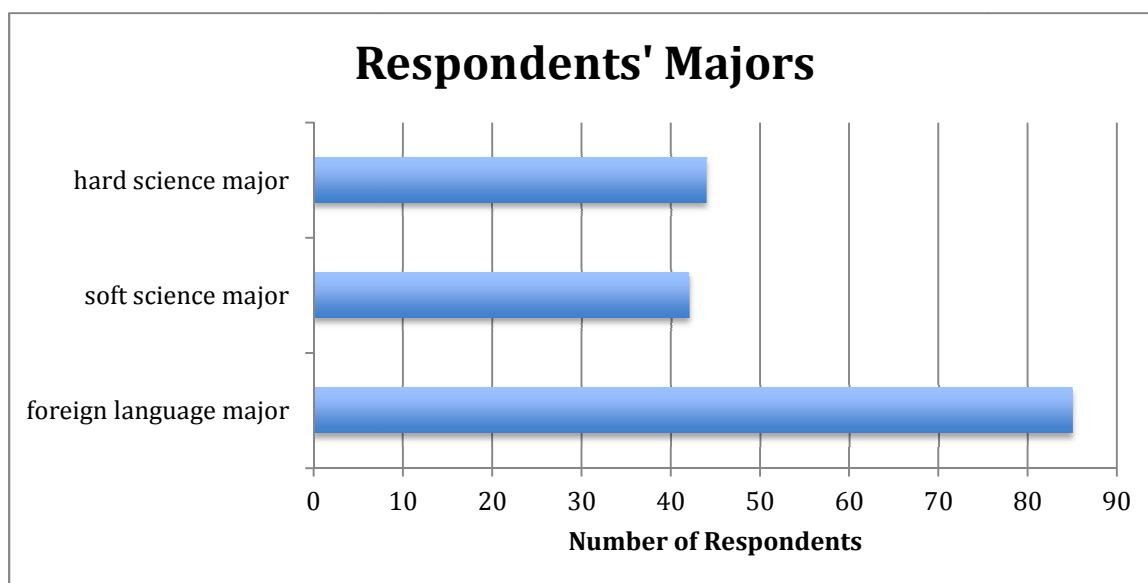
Hometown:



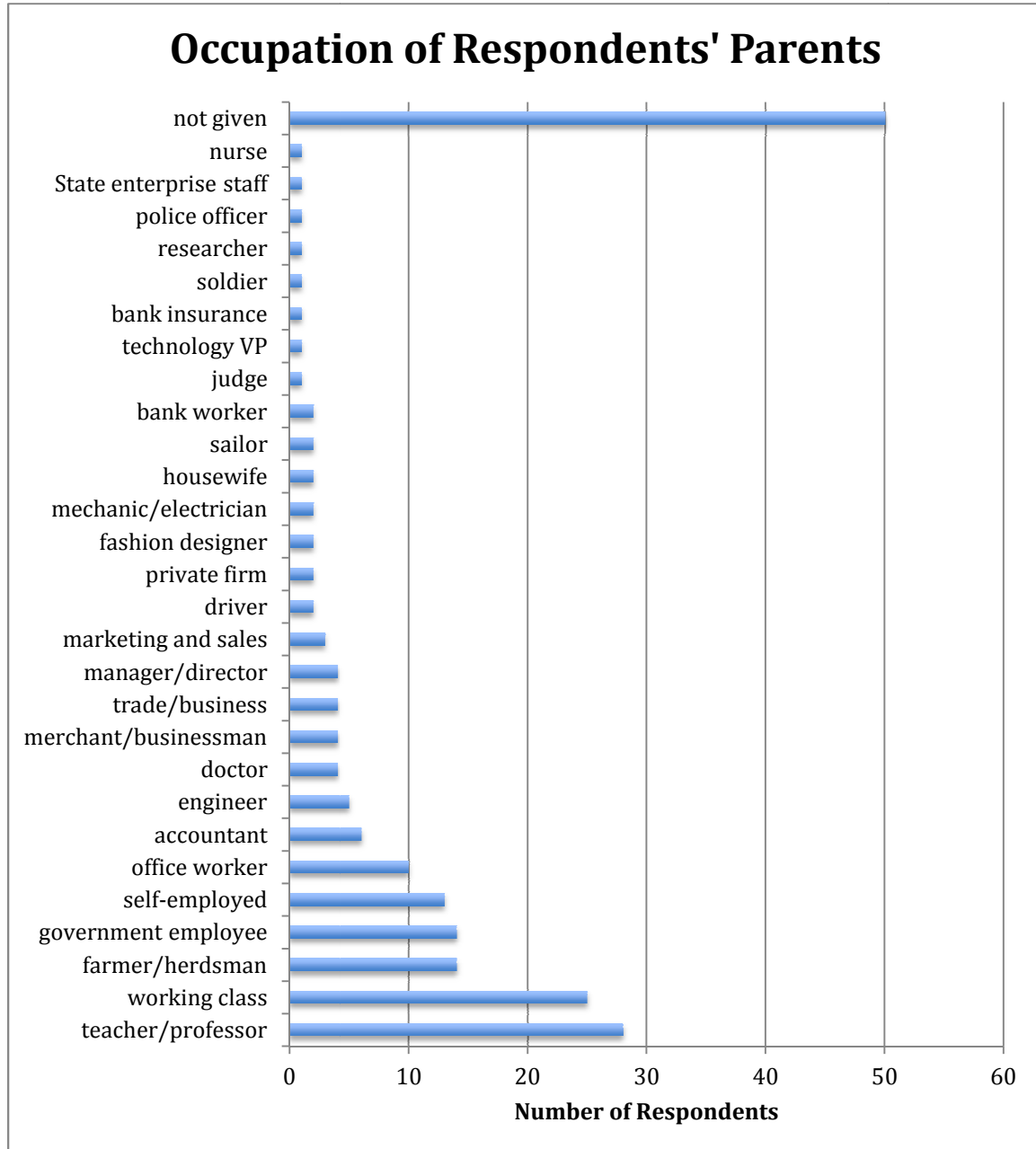
Respondents came from a total of twenty-seven different provinces/municipalities, with the largest group coming from Shandong, the province in which Shandong University is located. Thirteen respondents chose not to provide their hometown.

Major at University:

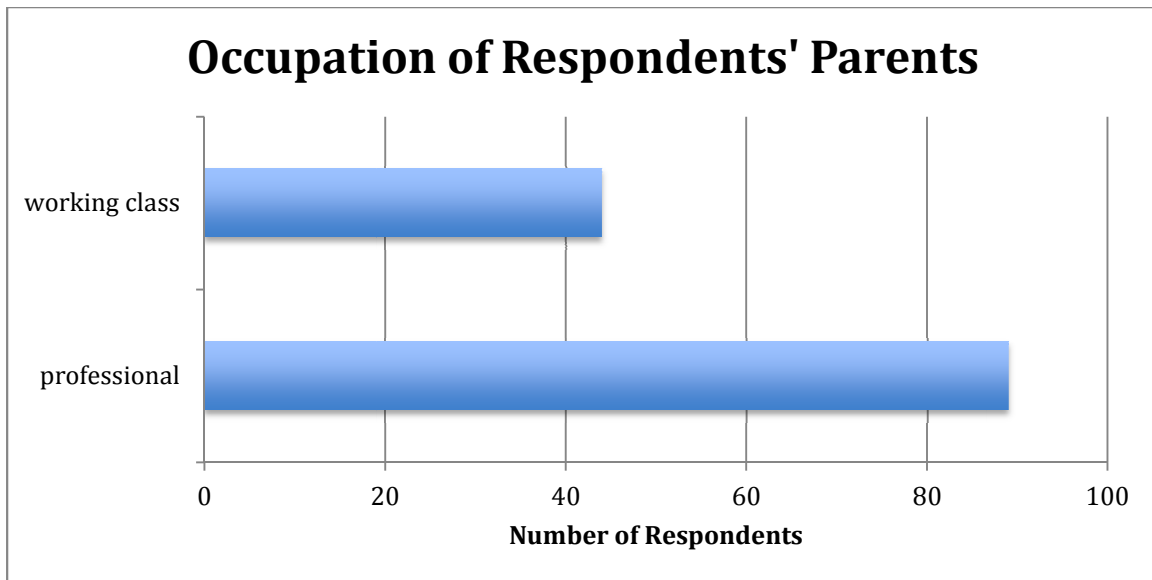
Respondents listed a total of twenty-one majors falling into twelve groupings of majors, while thirteen respondents chose not to provide their major.



In addition to individual majors, those respondents who provided their major were further divided into three categories: foreign language majors, which included Japanese, English, English linguistics and literature, Korean, foreign language, translation, and translation and interpretation; soft science majors, which included law, international English and politics, English and politics, economics, and business and commercial English; and hard science majors, which included computer software, software engineering, information and computer science, electronics and information science, math, math and computer science, materials science, materials and data, environmental science, and MSE.

Parents' Occupation:

A total of twenty-eight separate occupational categories were listed for parents' occupation, while fifty respondents chose not to provide their parents' occupation.



In addition to individual occupational groupings, those respondents who provided their parents' occupation were further divided into two categories: professional occupations, which included nurse, state enterprise staff, police officer, researcher, soldier, bank insurer, technology VP, judge, bank worker, sailor, fashion designer, private firm employee, marketing and sales employee, manager/director, tradesman/businessman, merchant/businessman, doctor, engineer, accountant, office worker, self-employed, government employee, and teacher/professor; and non-professional or working class occupations, which included driver, mechanic, electrician, farmer/herdsman, and manual laborer/worker.

Response Data

Question A1

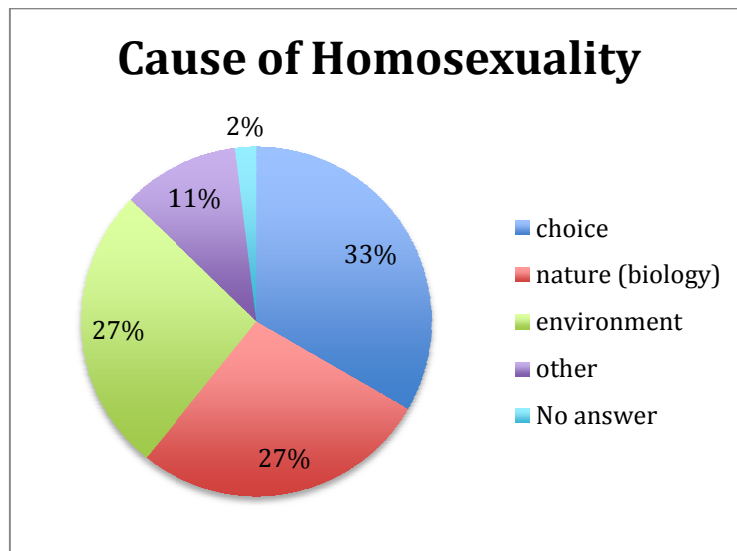
The Cause of Homosexuality

Original Chinese: 同性恋的原因是：

1. 选择
2. 环境
3. 自然（生物学）
4. 别的（请在下面写上）

English Translation: The cause of homosexuality is:

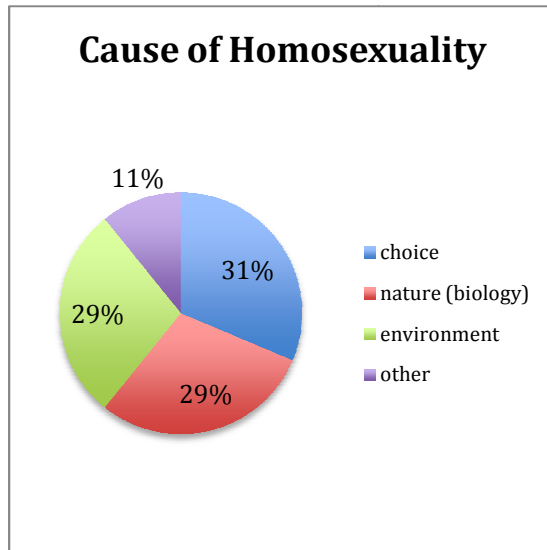
1. Choice
2. Environment
3. Nature (biology)
4. Other (please write below)

Overall Results

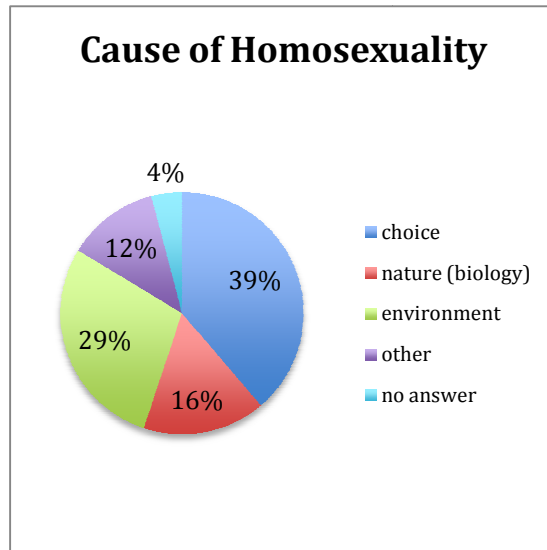
Answers to the first question were fairly evenly split between the three options given for the cause of homosexuality, with choice being 6% a higher response than nature (biology) and environment, as well as slightly fewer respondents writing in their own answers.

Comparative Results

Parents' Occupation Is Professional

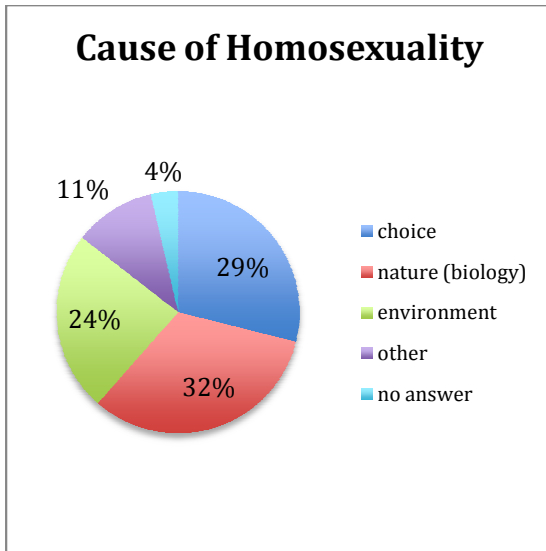


Parents' Occupation Is Working Class

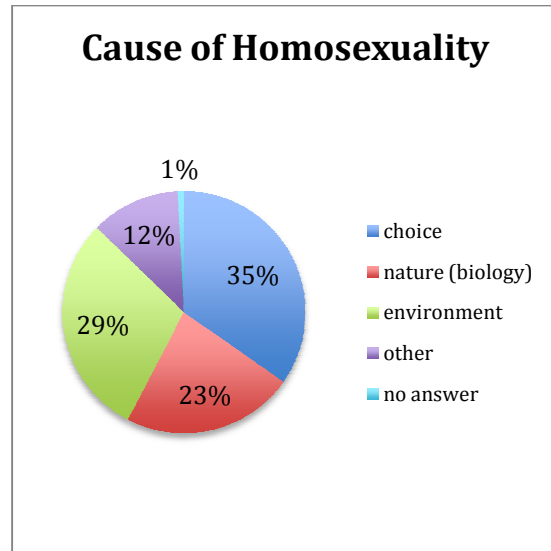


Respondents coming from professional families tended to have more belief in nature (biology being a possible cause than did those coming from the working class. While the percentage who viewed environment as a cause remained the same, those from the working class favored choice being a cause more so than those from professional families did.

Male

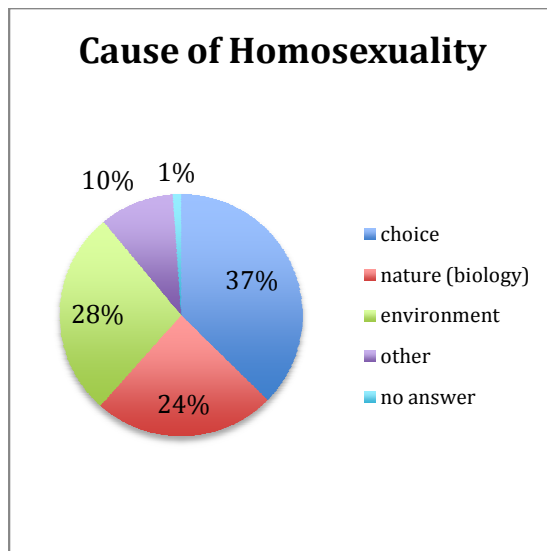


Female

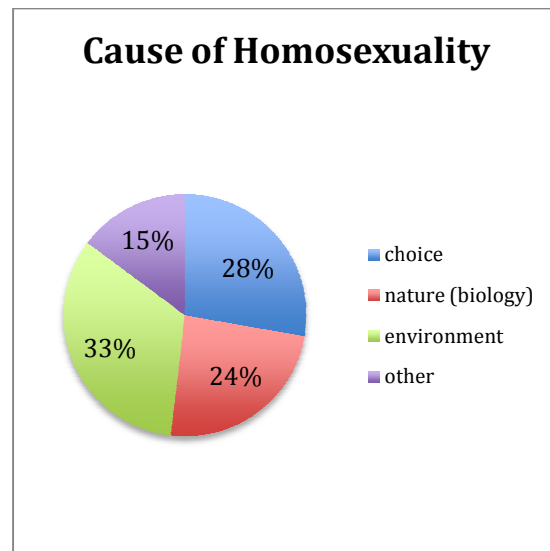


Male respondents favored nature (biology) as a cause more than female respondents, who in turn had slightly higher percentages for choice and environment.

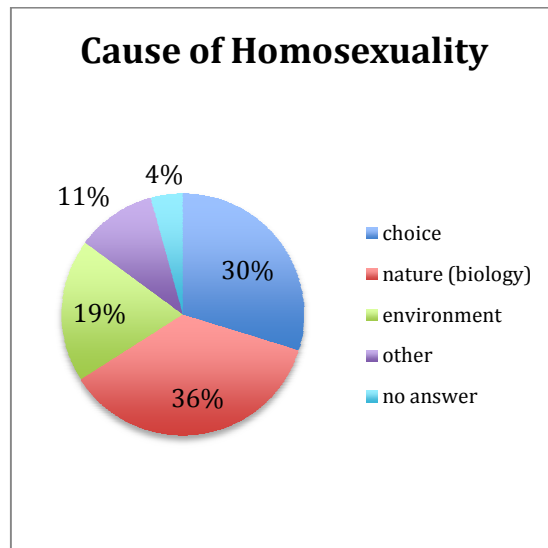
Foreign Language Major



Soft Science Major



Hard Science Major



Respondents majoring in foreign languages favored choice as the cause of homosexuality, with nature (biology) receiving the lowest percentage of 24%. Soft science majors showed less variance between the three given options than did others, but they favored environment most and nature (biology) least, the latter

receiving the same percentage of responses as foreign language majors (24%). Hard science majors differed in favoring nature (biology) as a cause, with environment receiving the lowest percentage at 19%.

Question A2

Acceptability of Homosexuality

Original Chinese: 对你来说同性恋

1. 可以
2. 不可以
3. 在有的情况可以，在有的不可以

English Translation: For you, homosexuality is:

1. Acceptable
2. Not acceptable
3. In some cases acceptable, in others not acceptable

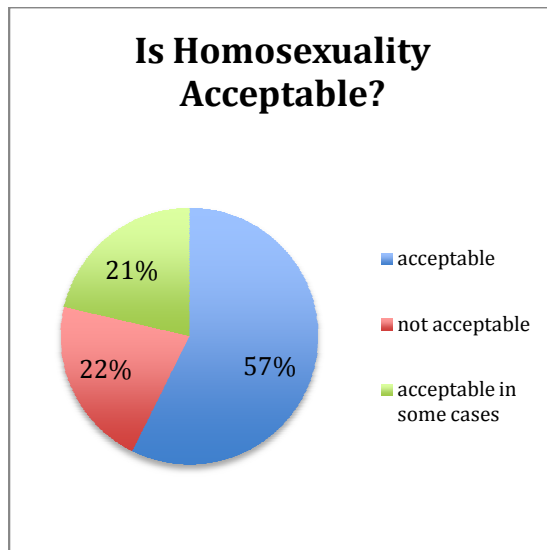
Overall Results



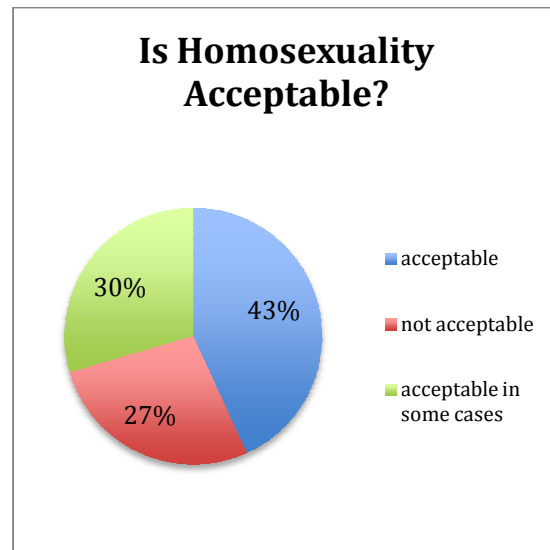
Overall trends showed slightly less than half of respondents believing that homosexuality is acceptable, with a further 24% qualifying that it is acceptable in some situations. Slightly above one fourth of respondents stated that it was unacceptable.

Comparative Results

Parents' Occupation Is Professional

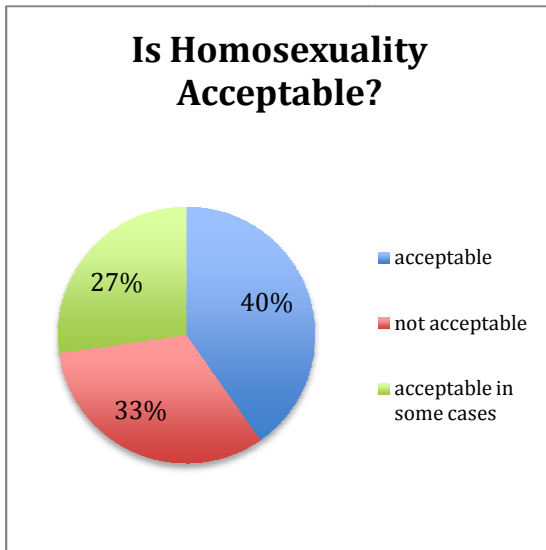


Parents' Occupation Is Working Class

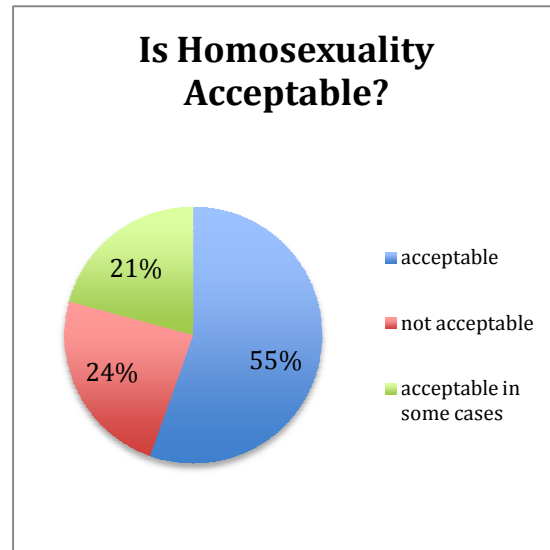


Respondents from professional families found homosexuality to be acceptable, both unqualified and qualified as “acceptable in certain situations”, in higher percentages than did those from working class backgrounds. Among those from the working class, the percentage finding it unacceptable was 5% higher than those from professional families, while the percentage finding it acceptable in certain situations was 9% higher.

Male

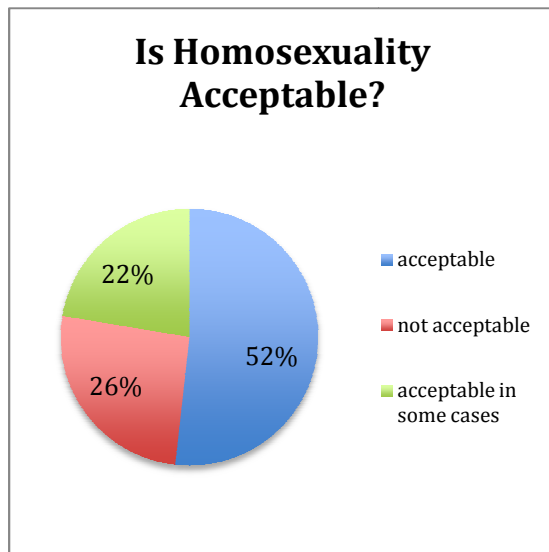


Female

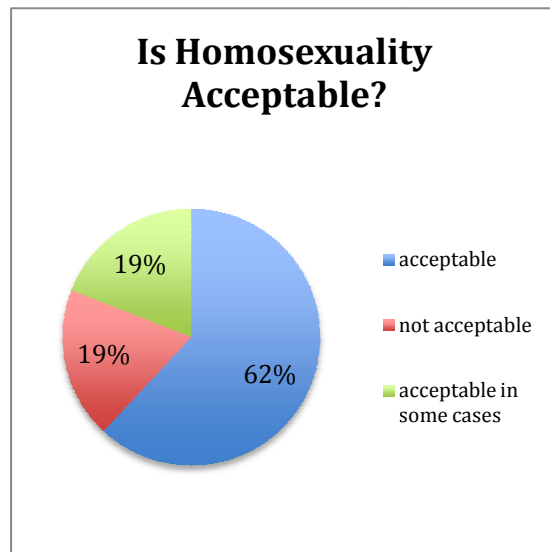


Female respondents showed a clear trend of finding homosexuality to be acceptable more than males did. In addition to male respondents having a higher percentage finding it unacceptable, they were also 6% more likely to find homosexuality acceptable in certain situations.

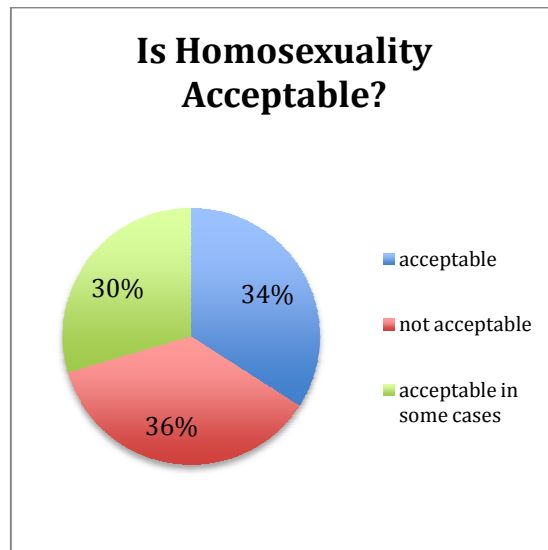
Foreign Language Major



Soft Science Major



Hard Science Major



Soft science majors were the most likely to find homosexuality acceptable at 62%, followed by foreign language majors at 52%. Hard science majors were the

least likely to find it acceptable, with only 34% compared to 36% of them finding it unacceptable.

Question A3

Should Homosexuals Become Heterosexual

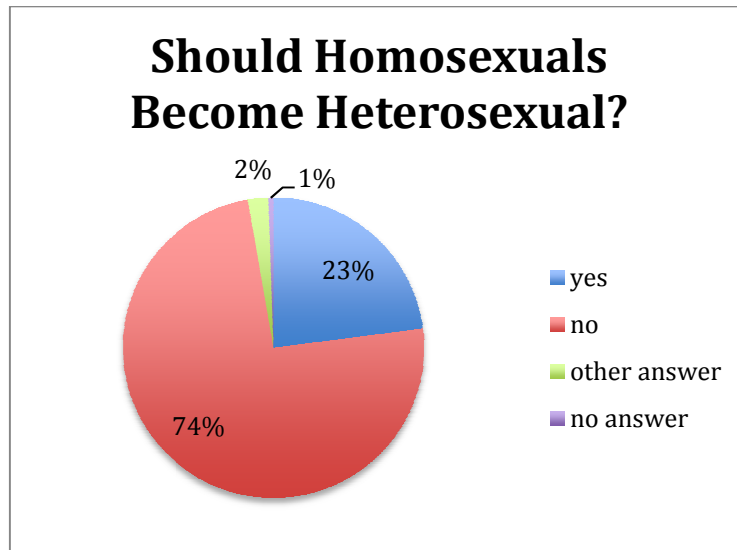
Original Chinese 同性恋者该变成异性恋者

1. 对
2. 不对

English Translation: Homosexuals should become heterosexual.

1. Yes
2. No

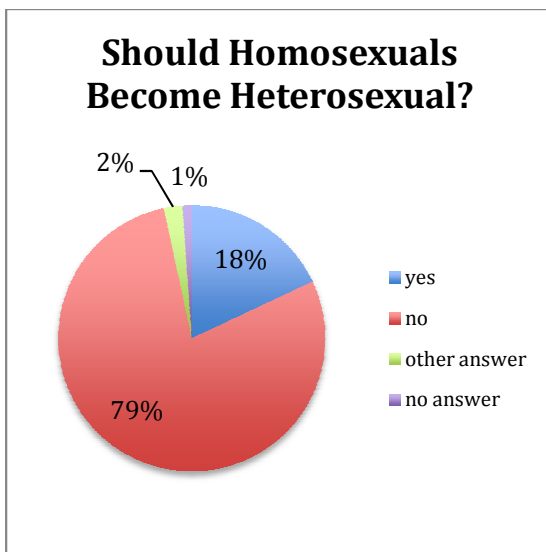
Overall Results



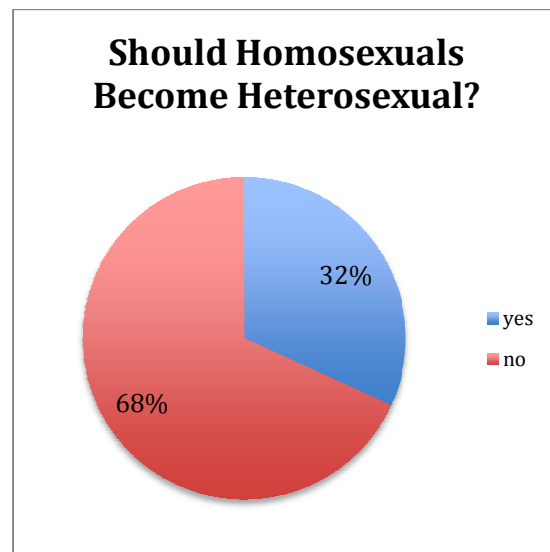
A clear majority of respondents (74%) stated that homosexuals should not become heterosexual, while 23% stated that they should do so.

Comparative Results

Parents' Occupation Is Professional

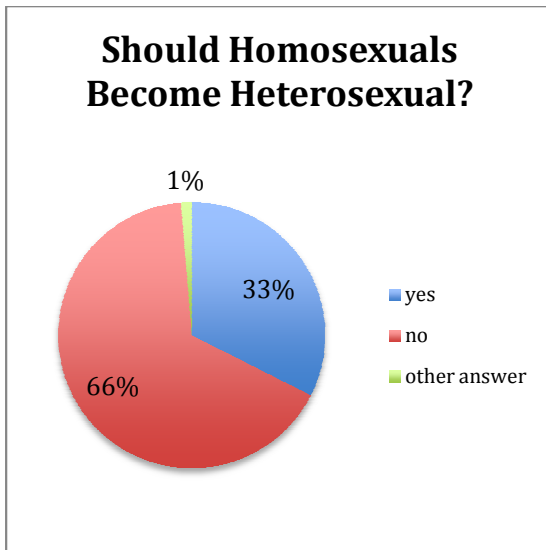


Parents' Occupation Is Working Class

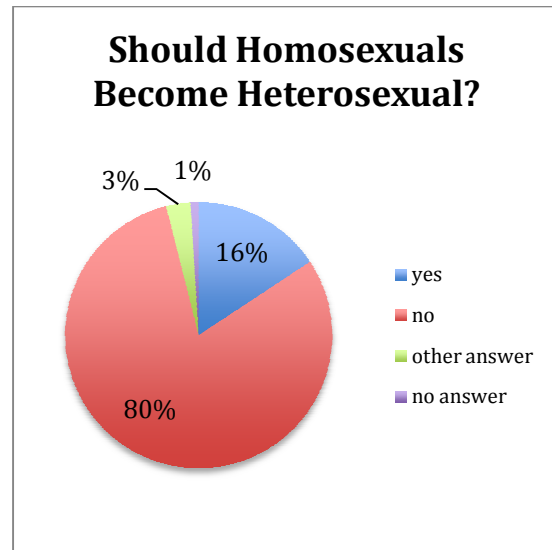


While a higher percentage of respondents coming from working class families stated that homosexuals should become heterosexual than did those from professional families, the majority of both groups believed that homosexuals should not do so.

Male

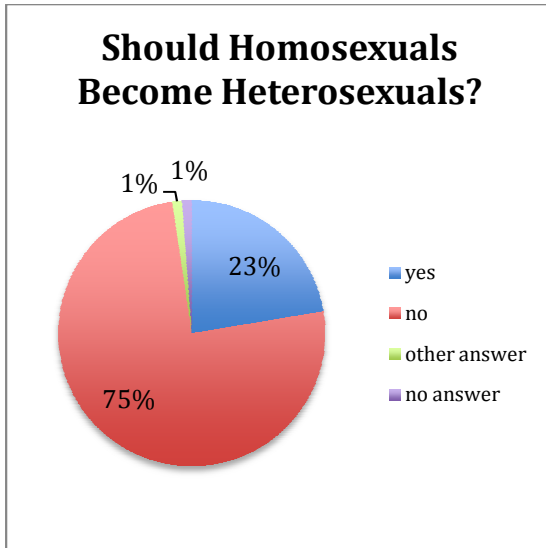


Female

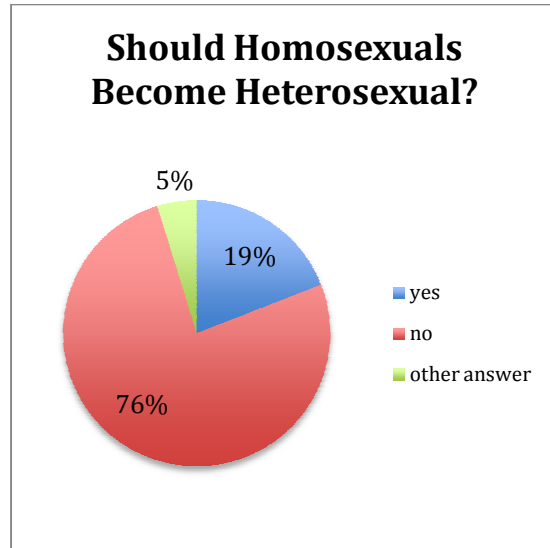


The trend in male vs. female responses was similar to that of professional vs. working class parents' occupations. Male respondents had a higher percentage stating that homosexuals should become heterosexual than did females, but the majority of both groups stated that homosexuals should not do so.

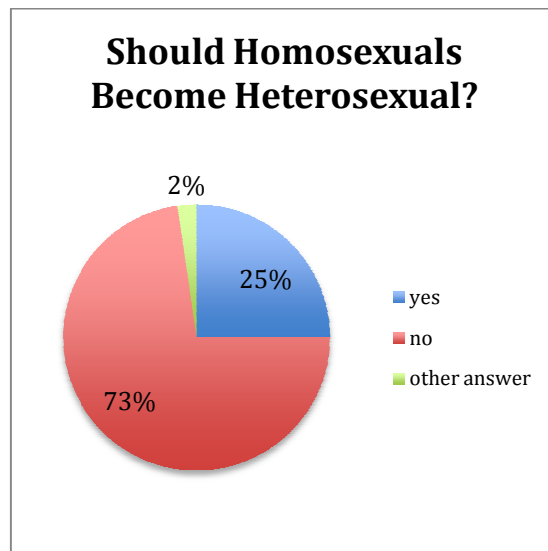
Foreign Language Major



Soft Science Major



Hard Science Major



The majority of all three groups responded that homosexuals should not become heterosexual, while hard science majors were most likely to respond that homosexuals should do so, with soft science majors being least likely.

Question A4

Coming Out in Public

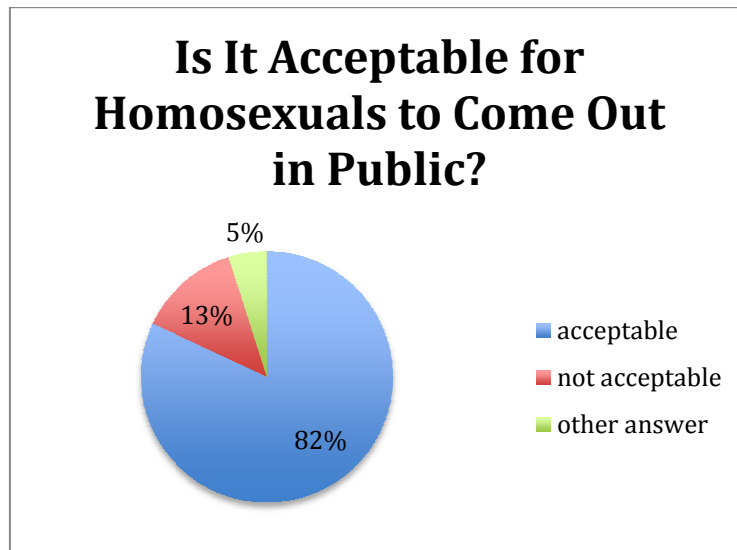
Original Chinese: 同性恋者可以不可以公开身份（一起去饭店，电影院，公园，等等）

1. 可以
2. 不可以
3. 别的回答（请在下面写上）

English Translation: Is it acceptable for homosexuals to come out in public? (go to a restaurant together, the movie theater, a park, etc.)

1. Acceptable
2. Not acceptable
3. Other (please write below)

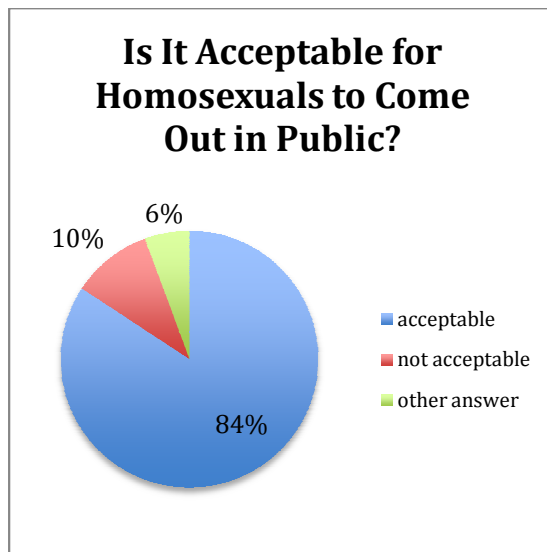
Overall Results



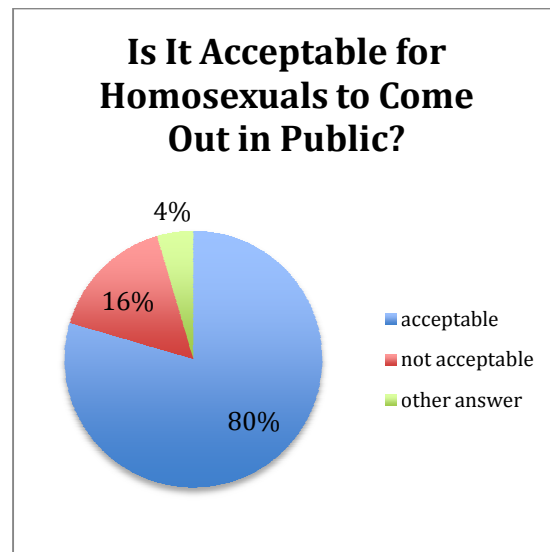
A clear majority stated that it is acceptable for homosexuals to come out in public, with 13% stating that it is not acceptable.

Comparative Results

Parents' Occupation Is Professional

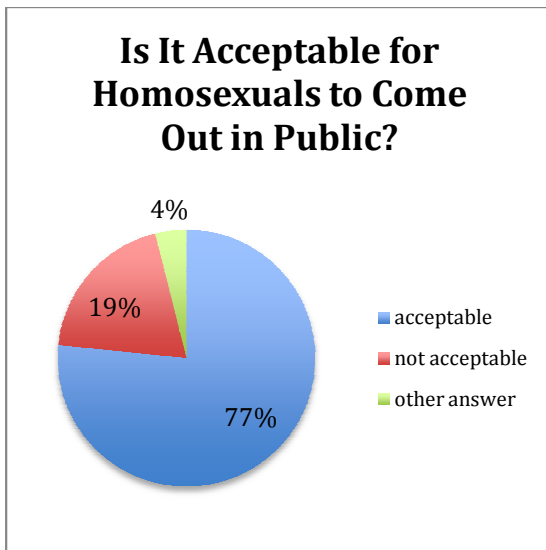


Parents' Occupation Is Working Class

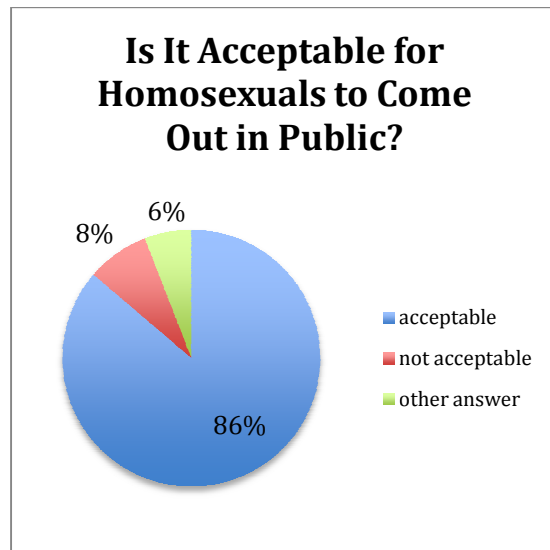


Both respondents from professional families and those from working class families showed similar trends in their answers, with the majority of both groups stating that it was acceptable for homosexuals to come out in public. Those from working class families had a slight increase in the number stating that it was unacceptable, with 16% compared to 10% of those from professional families.

Male

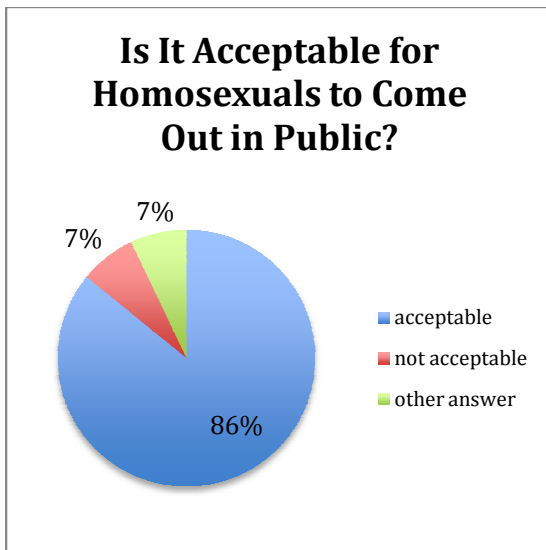


Female

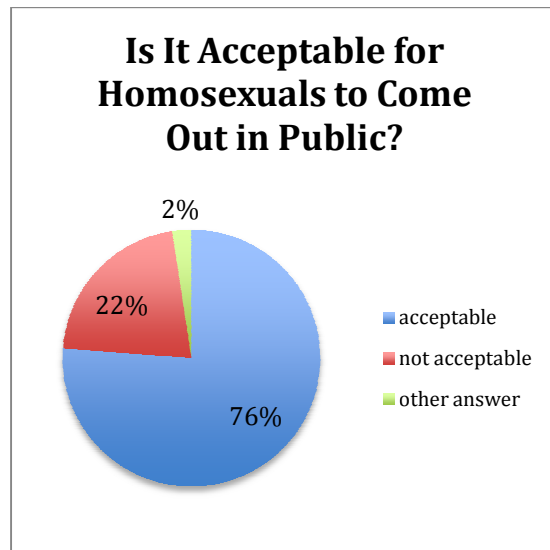


The majority of both males and females stated that it was acceptable for homosexuals to come out in public, yet males had a greater percentage of those who answered that it was unacceptable than did females.

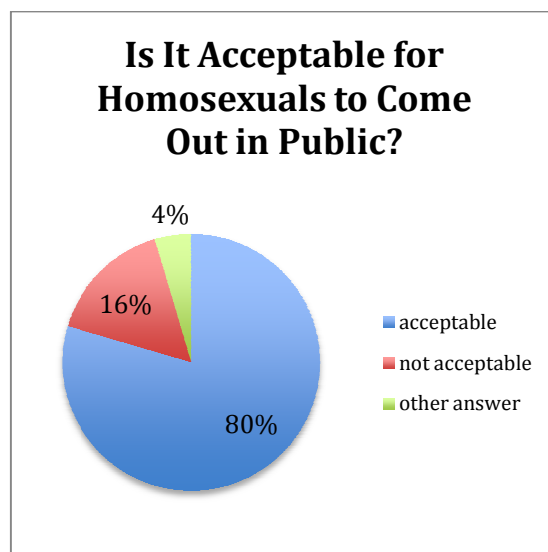
Foreign Language Major



Soft Science Major



Hard Science Major



The majority of all three groups responded that it was acceptable for homosexuals to come out in public, with soft science majors having the lowest percentage at 77% and foreign language majors having the highest percentage at 86%.

Question A5

Gay Males vs. Lesbians

Original Chinese: 你对男同性恋者和蕾丝边有一样的感觉吗？（也就是说，你的回

答是对全部的同性恋者，男人和女人）

1. 一样

2. 区别

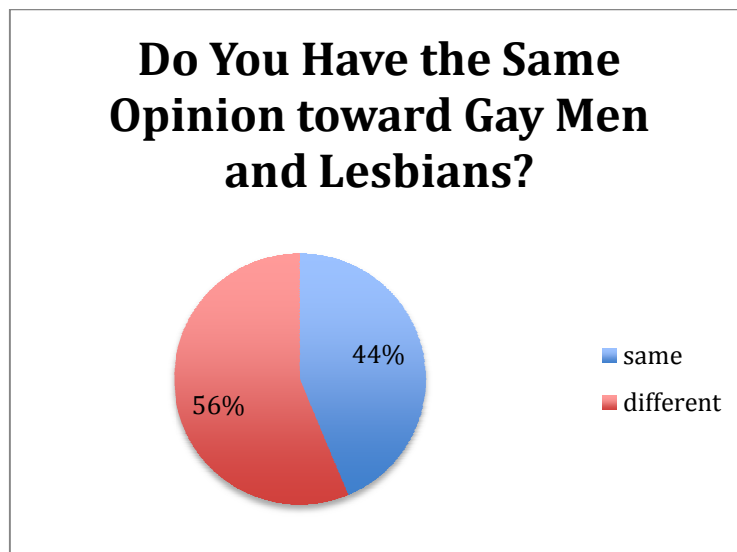
English Translation: Do you have the same feeling toward gay men and lesbians?

(that is, your answers are for all homosexuals, male and female)

1. The same

2. Different

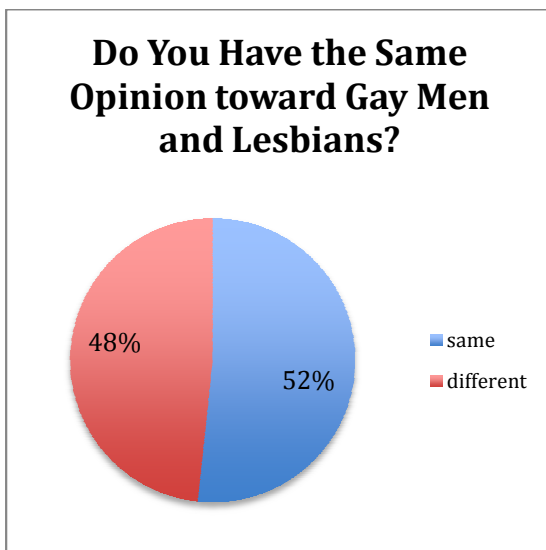
Overall Results



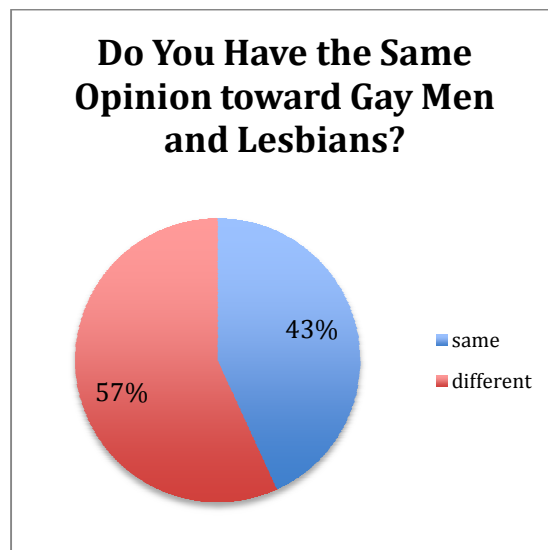
The overall results showed responses being near evenly split between those who held the same opinion toward both gay men and lesbians and those who held differing opinions for each of those two groups. Slightly more respondents stated that they held differing opinions of each than the same opinion of both.

Comparative Results

Parents' Occupation Is Professional

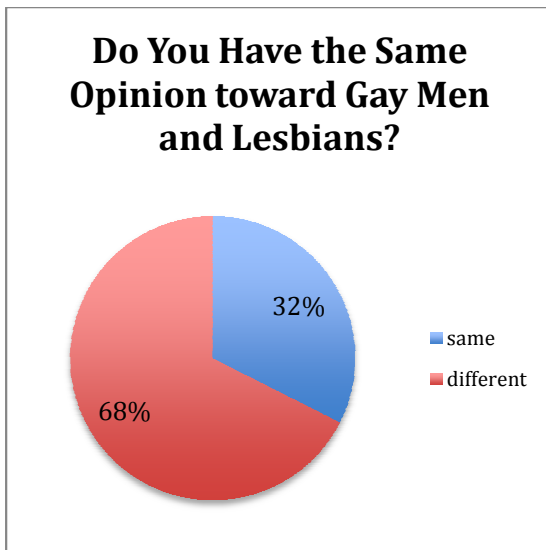


Parents' Occupation Is Working Class

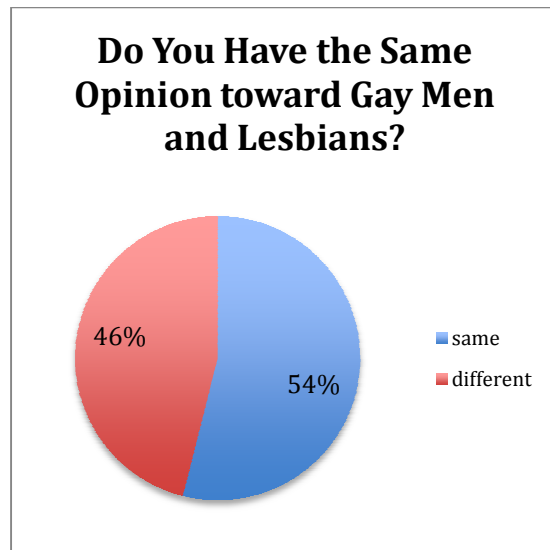


Responses of those from professional families were split nearly half and half, while those from working class families had a slightly higher percentage holding differing opinions.

Male

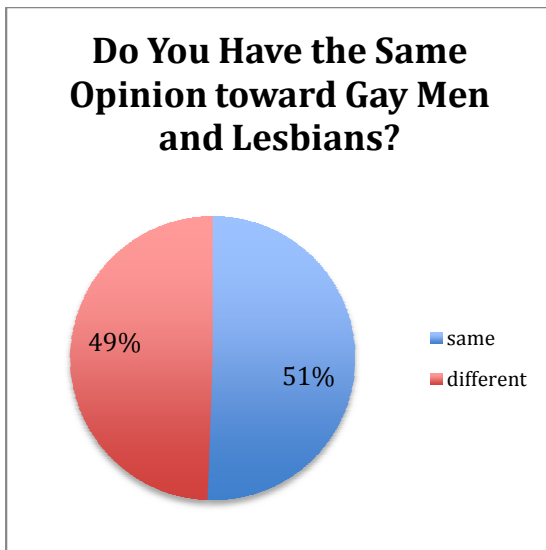


Female

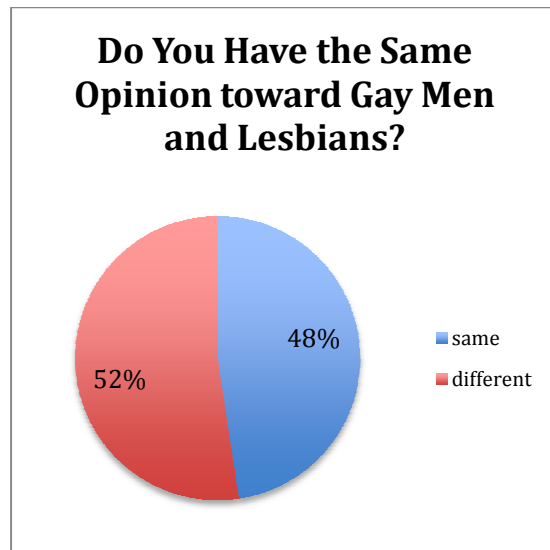


The majority of males responded that they held differing opinions for gay men and lesbians, while a slight majority of females responded that they felt the same toward both groups.

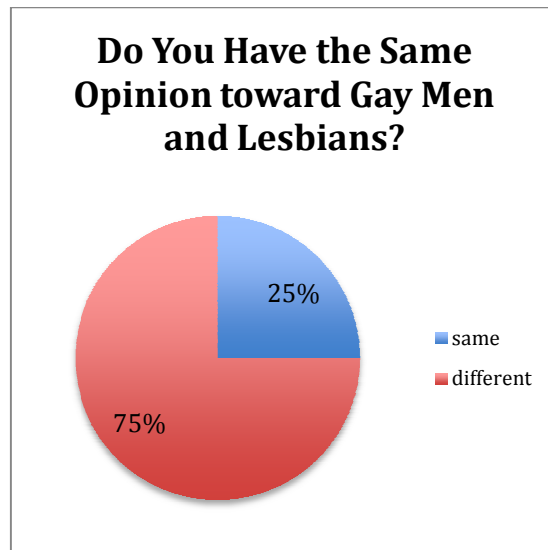
Foreign Language Major



Soft Science Major



Hard Science Major



While responses were split near evenly for foreign language and soft science majors, the majority of hard science majors stated that they held differing opinions for gay men and lesbians.

Question A6

Criminalization and the Death Penalty

Original Chinese: 在世界的有的国家同性恋是犯罪或者死刑的犯罪。你的想法是什

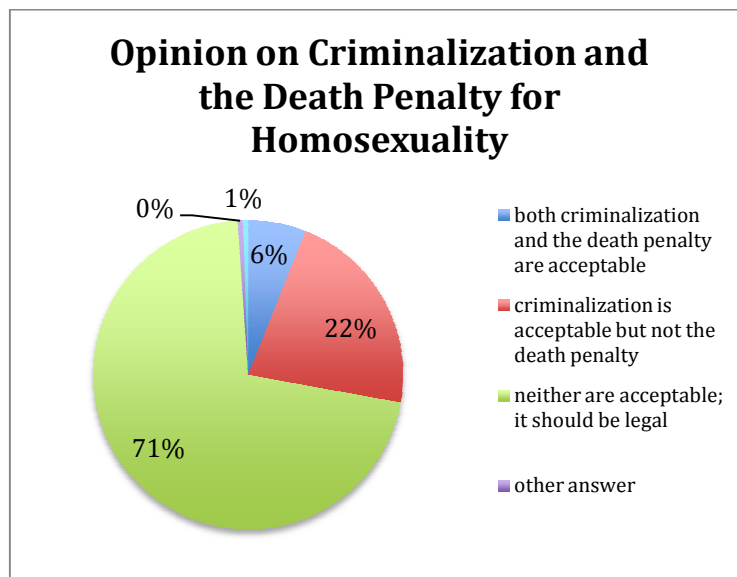
▪ ?

1. 犯罪，死刑的犯罪，都可以
2. 犯罪可以，死刑不可以
3. 都不可以，该是合法

English Translation In some countries in the world, homosexuality is a crime or warrants the death penalty. What are your thoughts?

1. Both criminalization and the death penalty are acceptable
2. Criminalization is acceptable, but not the death penalty
3. Neither are acceptable; it should be legal

Overall Results

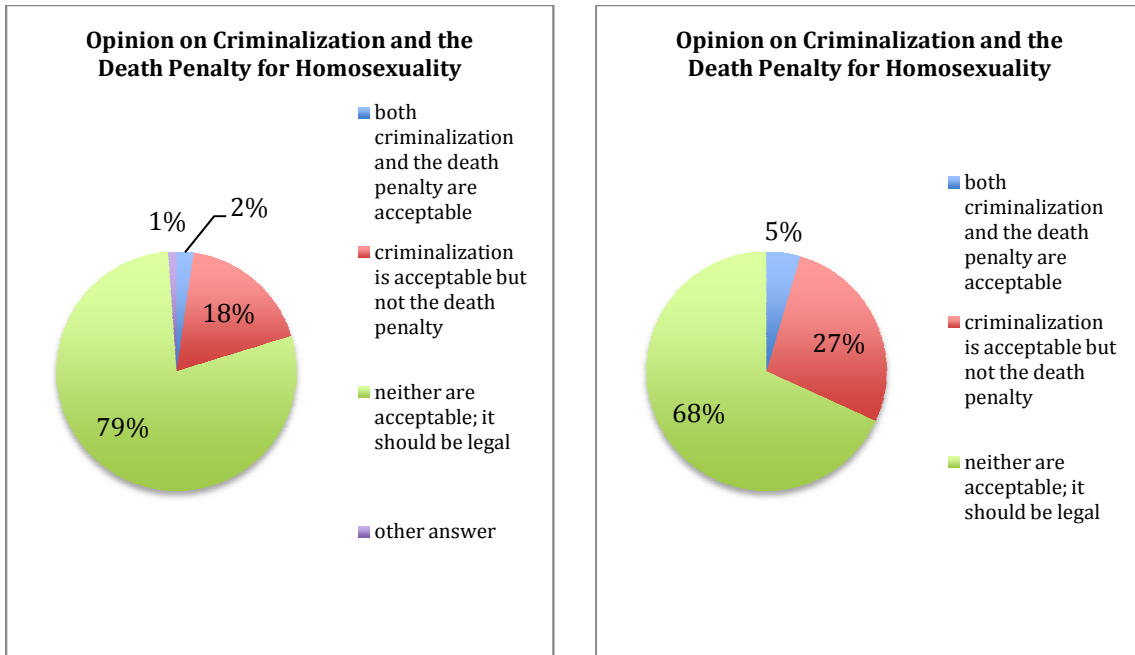


The majority of respondents stated that neither the death penalty nor criminalization is acceptable and that homosexuality should be legal. 22% responded that criminalization is acceptable but not the death penalty, while 6% responded that both are acceptable.

Comparative Results

Parents' Occupation Is Professional

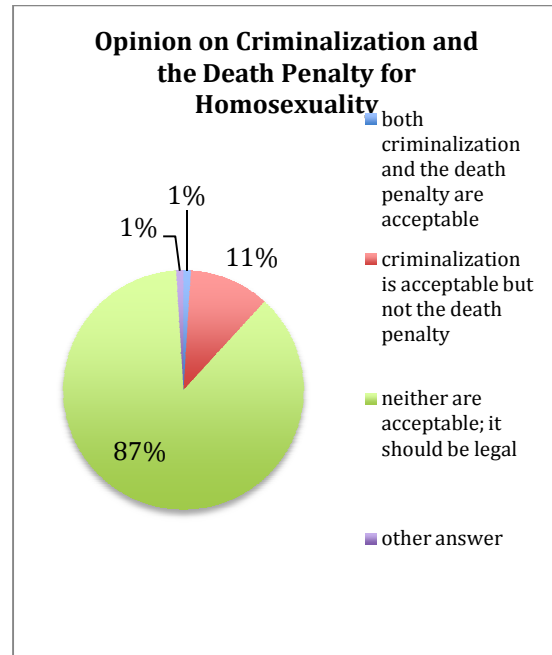
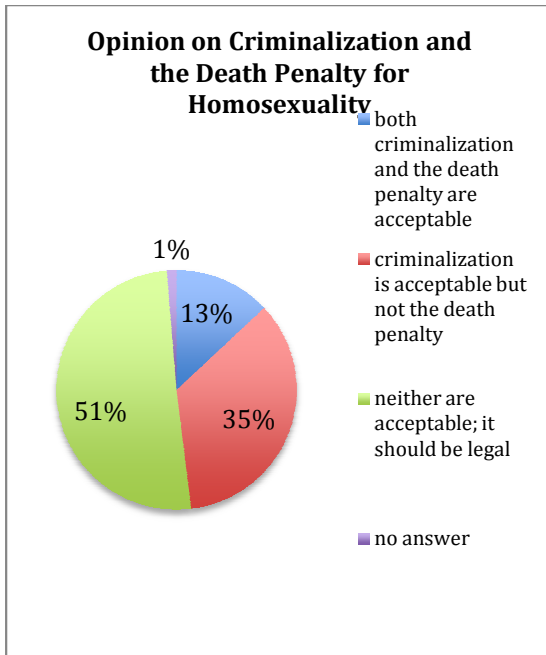
Parents' Occupation Is Working Class



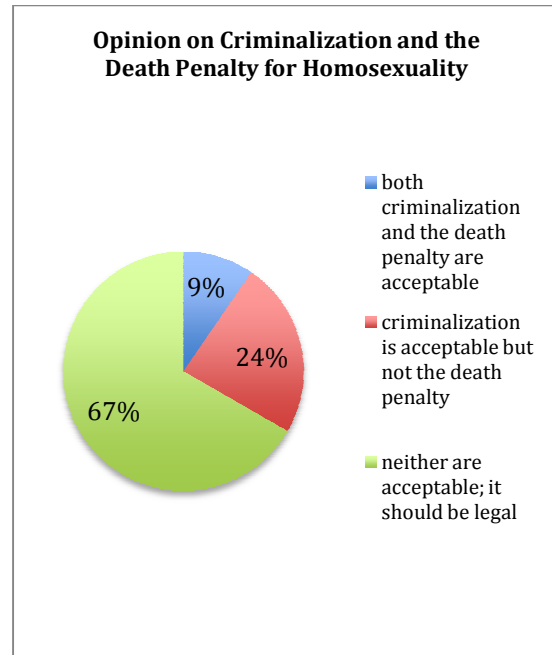
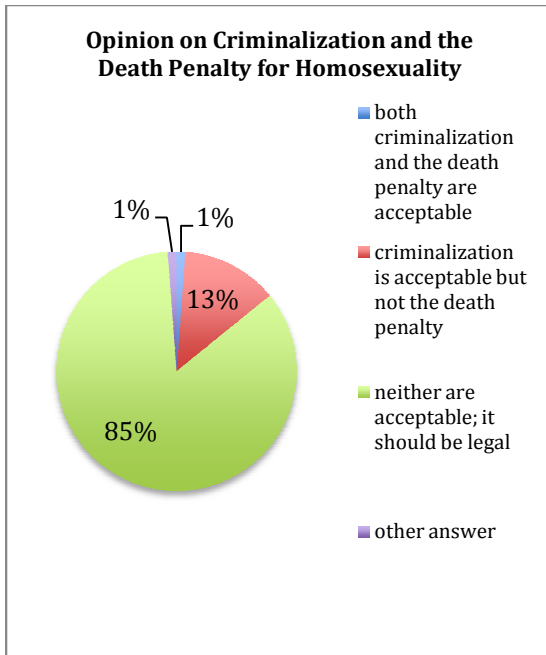
Respondents coming from professional families were less likely to find either criminalization or the death penalty acceptable than were those from working class families, who were more likely to find criminalization, but not the death penalty acceptable. Only 2% of those from professional families and 5% of those from working class families found both criminalization and the death penalty to be acceptable.

Males

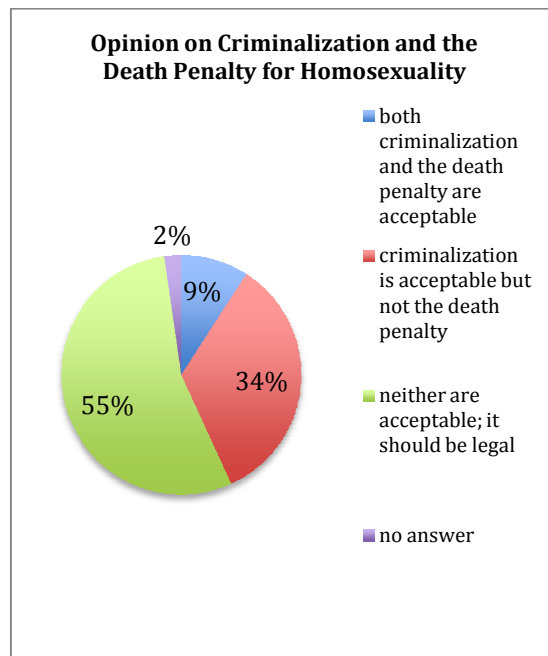
Females



Only 51% of males found both criminalization and the death penalty to be unacceptable compared with 87% of females. Males were also three times as likely to find criminalization but not the death penalty to be acceptable, and 13% of males found both acceptable compared with 1% of females.



Hard Science Major



The majority of each group found both criminalization and the death penalty to be unacceptable, with foreign language majors the least likely to do so. Hard science majors were most likely to find criminalization but not the death penalty

acceptable at 34%, with foreign languages majors the least likely at 13%. Both soft and hard science majors were equally likely to find both criminalization and the death penalty acceptable at 9%, while foreign language majors were at 1%.

Question B1

Homosexuals Living in China

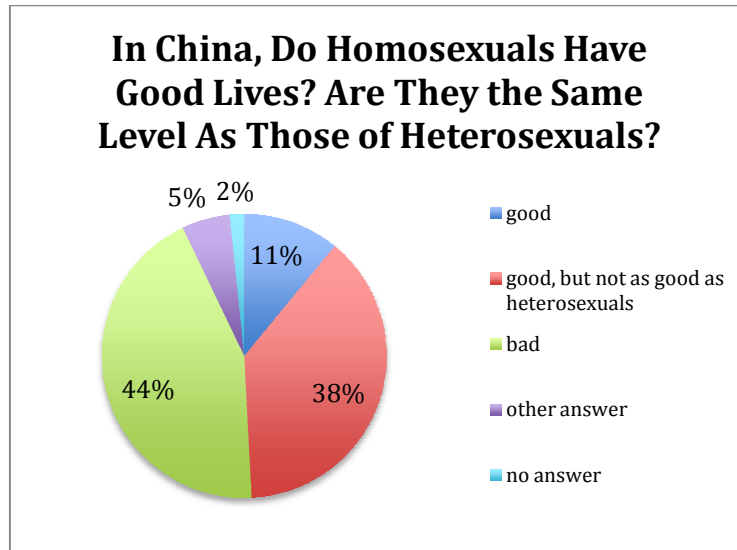
Original Chinese: 在中国，同性恋者的生活好不好？跟异性恋者的生活一样的水平吗？

1. 好
2. 好，可是没有异性恋者的那么好
3. 不好

English Translation: In China, are homosexuals' lives good? Are they as good as those of heterosexuals?

1. Good
2. Good, but not as good as those of heterosexuals
3. Bad

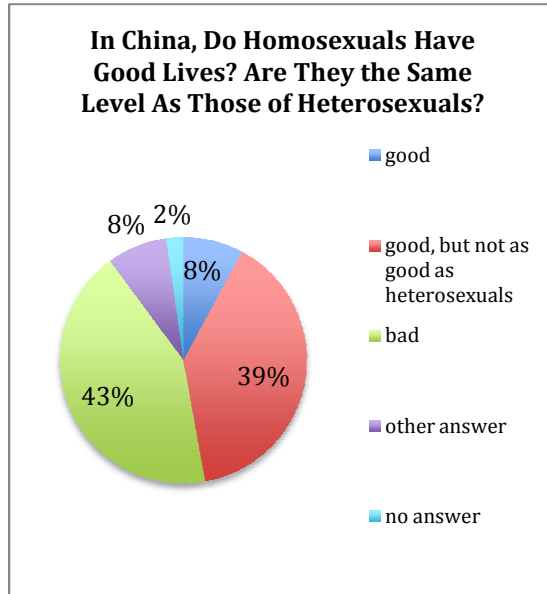
Overall Results



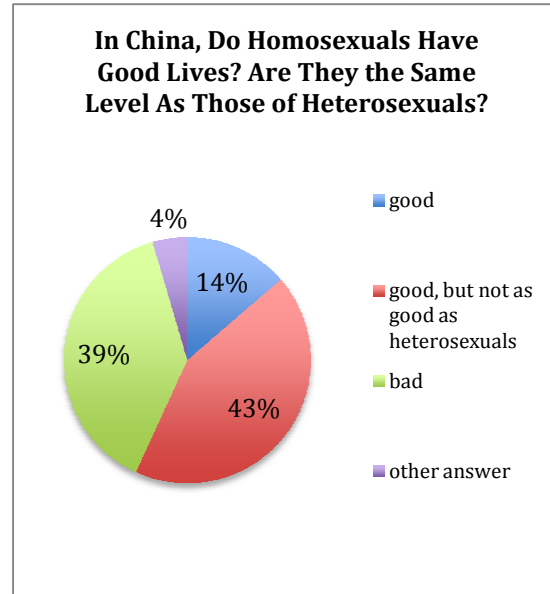
The majority of respondents believed homosexuals in China had bad lives, with the next largest response being that they had good lives but not as good as heterosexuals. 11% of respondents believed that homosexuals in China had good lives.

Comparative Results

Parents' Occupation Is Professional



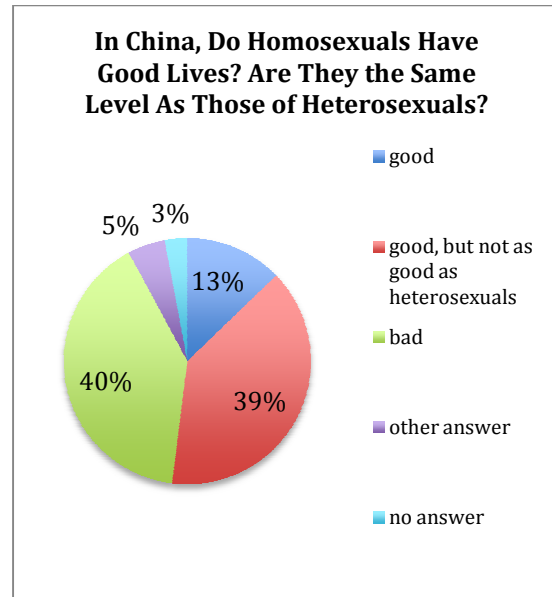
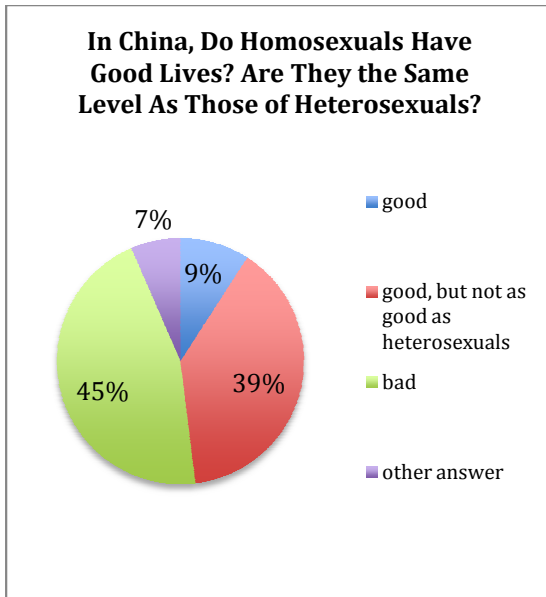
Parents' Occupation Is Working Class



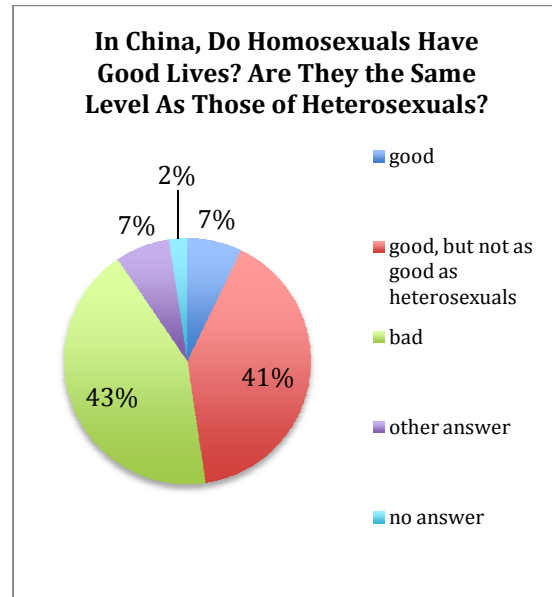
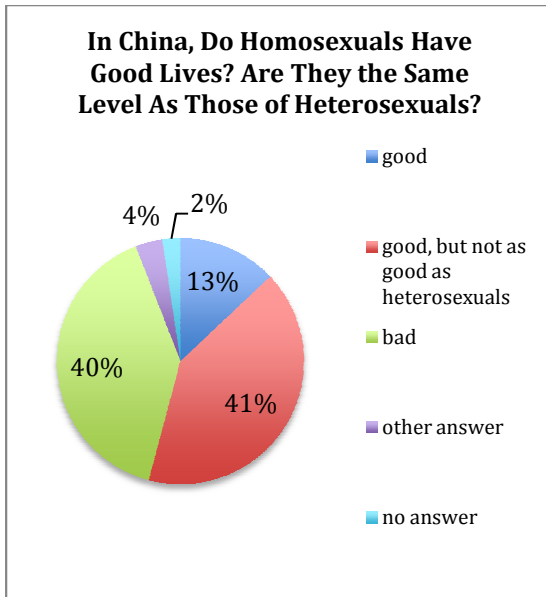
Respondents from professional families were more likely to state that homosexuals in China had bad lives while those from working class families were more likely to state that homosexuals in China had good lives but not as good as heterosexuals. These two responses formed the majority of answers for both groups, with 8% of those from professional families and 14% of those from working class families stating that homosexuals in China had good lives.

Male

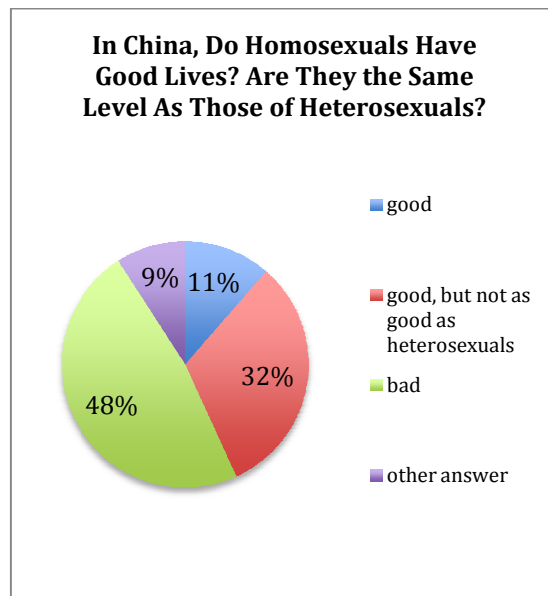
Female



Males were more likely to state that homosexuals in China had bad lives while females were evenly split between stating that homosexuals in China lead bad lives and that they lead good lives but not as good as heterosexuals. These two responses formed the majority of answers for both groups, with 9% of males and 13% of females stating that homosexuals in China had good lives.



Hard Science Major



Both foreign language majors and soft science majors were near evenly split between responding that homosexuals in China had bad lives and that they had good lives but not as good as heterosexuals, while hard science majors were more likely to respond that homosexuals in China had bad lives and less likely to respond

that they had good lives but not as good as heterosexuals. Foreign language majors were the most likely to state that homosexuals in China had good lives while soft science majors were the least likely.

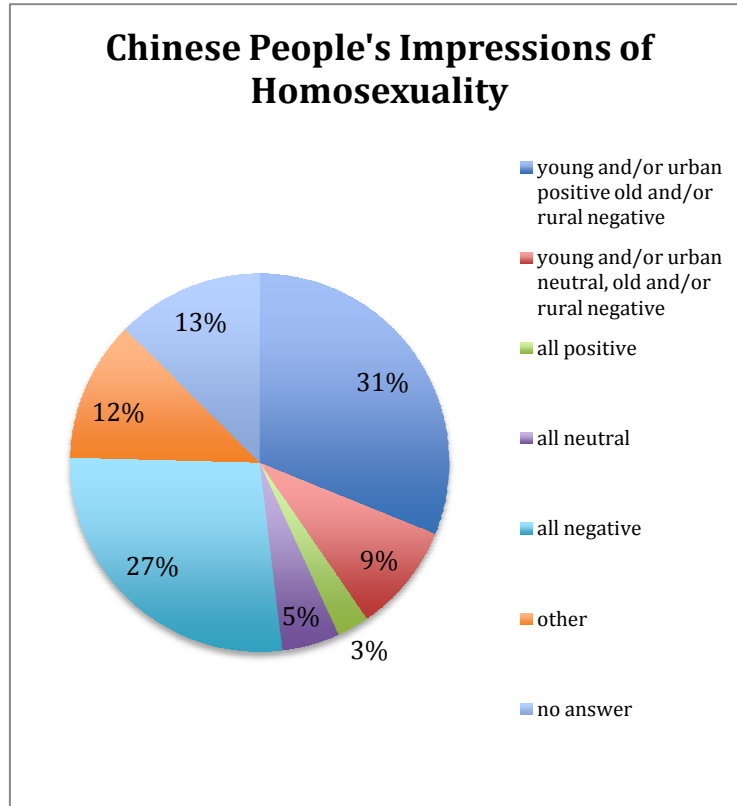
Question B2

Chinese People's Impressions of Homosexuality

Original Chinese: 请说明一下中国人对同性恋的印象。（年轻人，老人，村民，和城市人可能有分别的想法）

English Translation: Please explain Chinese people's impression of homosexuality.
(young people, old people, rural people, and city dwellers may have different views)

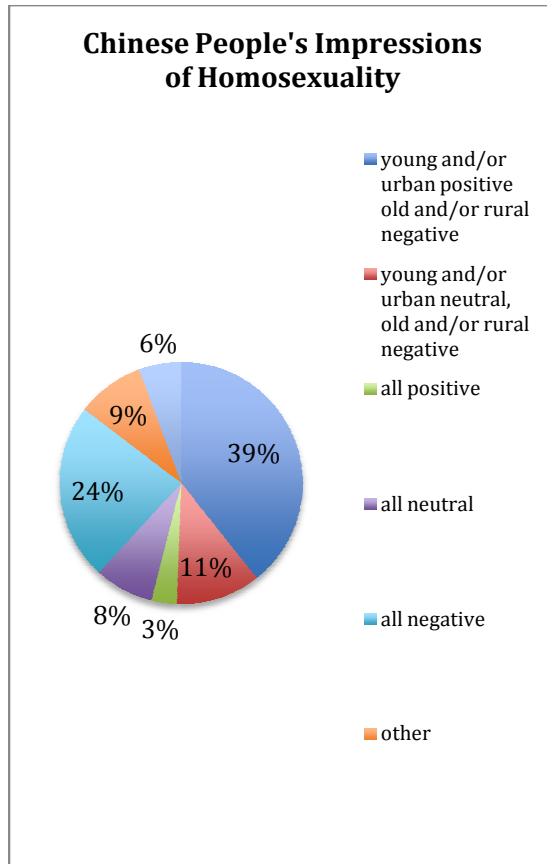
Overall Results



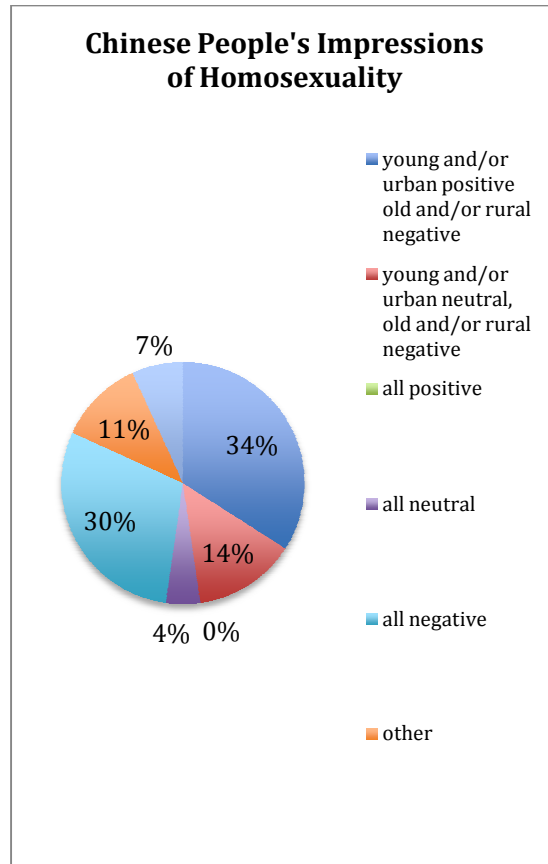
The largest trend overall was in answers that affirmed younger Chinese and those within cities to be more supportive than older Chinese and those in the countryside, having 31% of responses. However, the next largest trend at 27% was the belief that Chinese hold mostly negative views of homosexuality. In addition to this graphical data, trends among answers also showed that age was seen to be a greater factor than location in determining attitude toward homosexuality, that many people believed there to be a low level of understanding regarding homosexuality in China, and that many who responded that Chinese hold negative views of homosexuality stated that it was in conflict with societal norms, cultural norms, or both.

Comparative Results

Parents' Occupation Is Professional

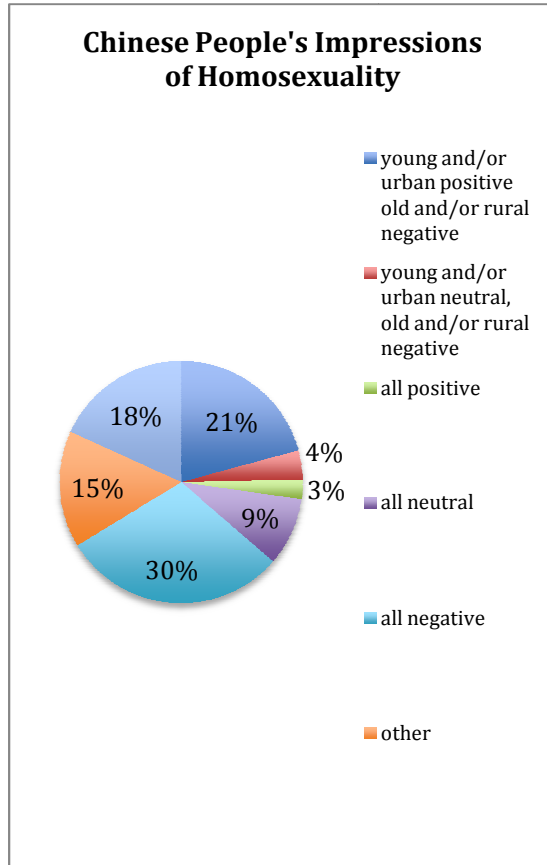


Parents' Occupation Is Working Class

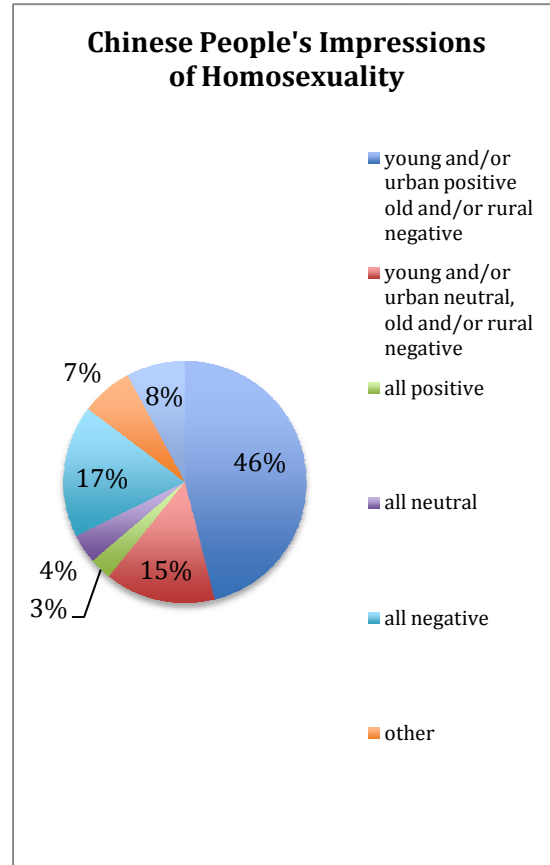


Respondents from professional families were slightly more likely to believe that younger Chinese and those within cities are more accepting of homosexuality than are older Chinese and those in the countryside. Respondents from working class families were slightly more likely to believe that all Chinese hold negative views on homosexuality, and none of the respondents from working class families believed that all Chinese held positive views on it.

Males

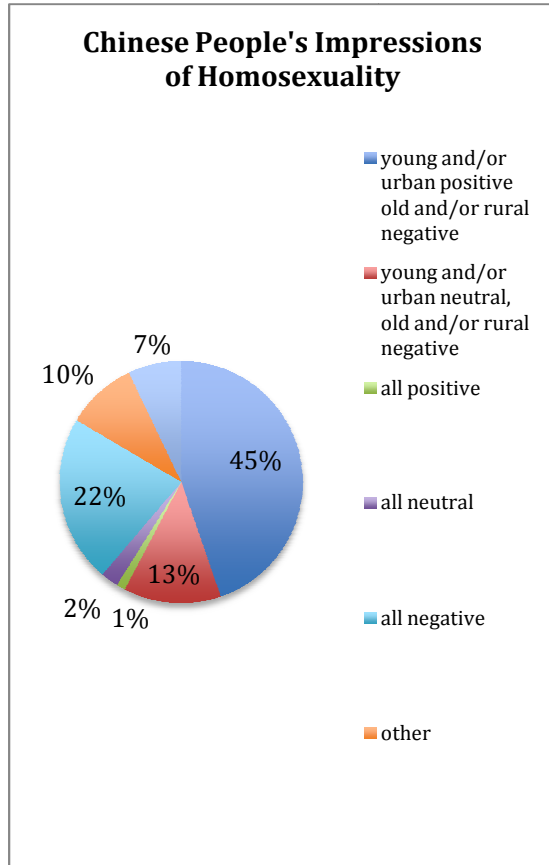


Females

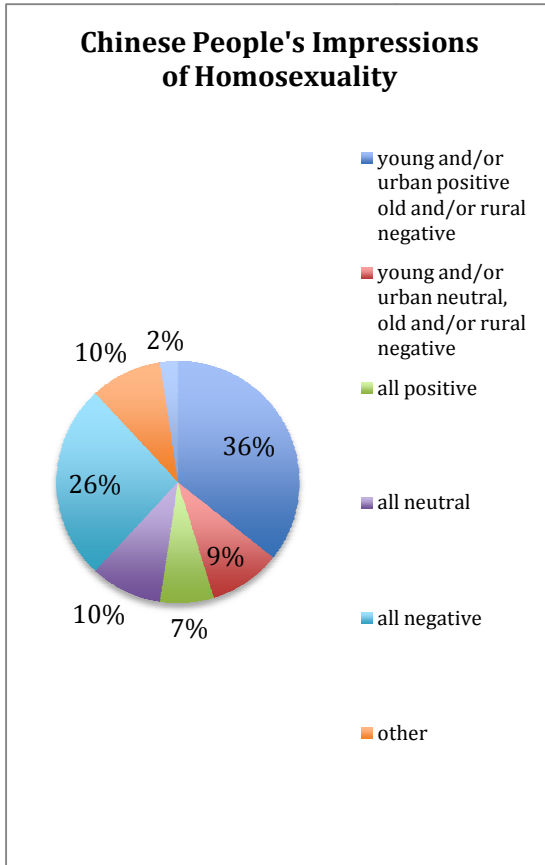


Females were much more likely than males to believe that younger Chinese and those within cities are more accepting of homosexuality or otherwise more neutral toward it than are older Chinese and those in the countryside. Males were more likely to believe that all Chinese hold negative views of homosexuality.

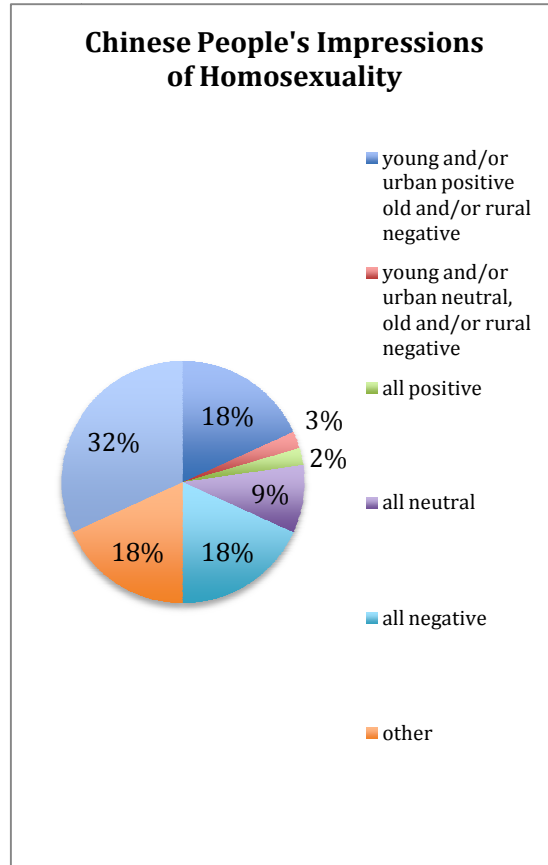
Foreign Language Major



Soft Science Major



Hard Science Major



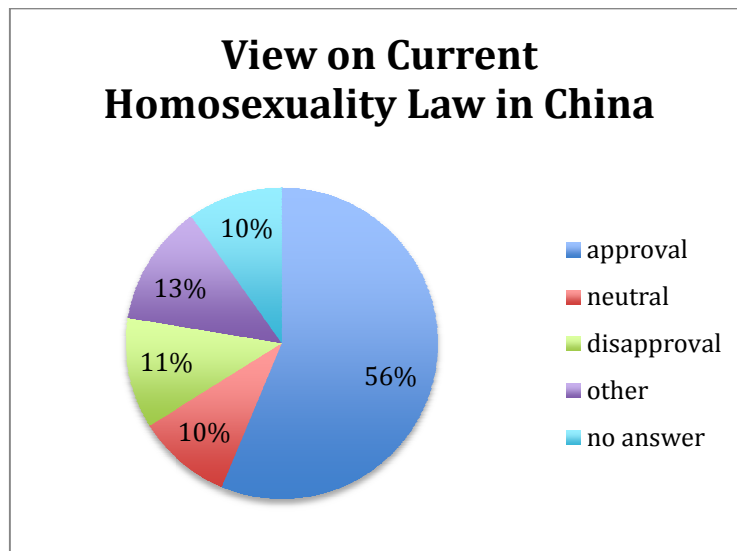
It is difficult to compare data between these three groups due only half of hard science majors having answered the questions within the categories of comparison, yet the two largest responses from each group remain that younger Chinese and those within cities are more accepting of homosexuality than are older Chinese and those in the countryside, and that all Chinese hold negative views of homosexuality. Foreign language majors were the most likely to believe in the first option at 45%.

Question B3

Opinion on the Chinese Law Regarding Homosexuality

Original Chinese: 中国政府对同性恋的婚姻的现在的法律是“三个不”：不支持，不反对，不提倡。对你来说这个法律怎么样？

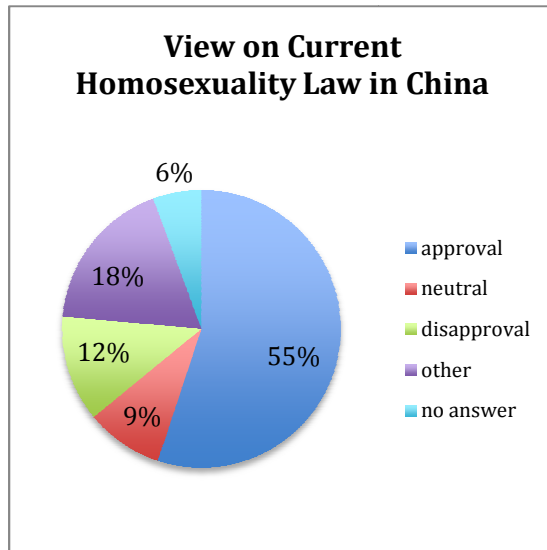
English Translation: The Chinese government's current law on homosexual marriage is "three no's": don't support, don't oppose, don't promote. What do you think of this law?

Overall Results

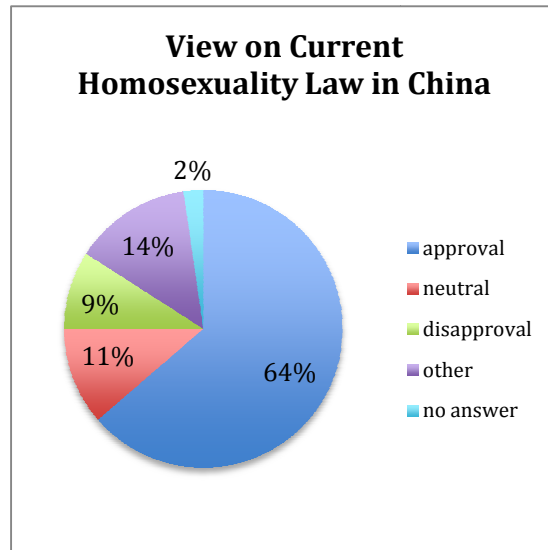
The majority of respondents were in favor of the Chinese government's current law regarding homosexuality. Those who disapproved or stated neutrality were at 11% and 10%, respectively, in comparison to 56% approval. A trend among those who stated approval was that they felt the law to be fitting for Chinese culture and the current state of the country.

Comparative Results

Parents' Occupation Is Professional

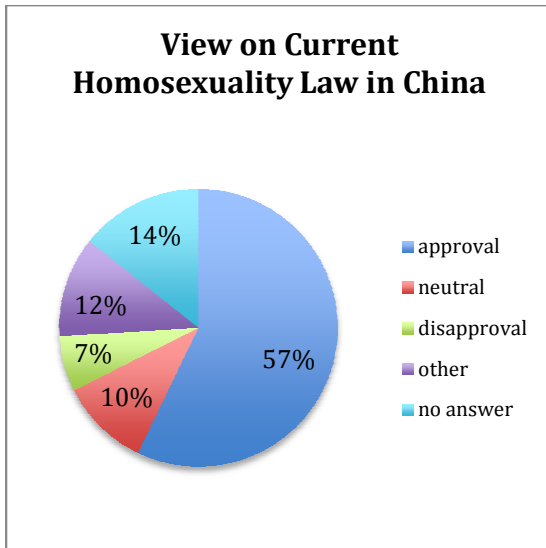


Parents' Occupation Is Working Class

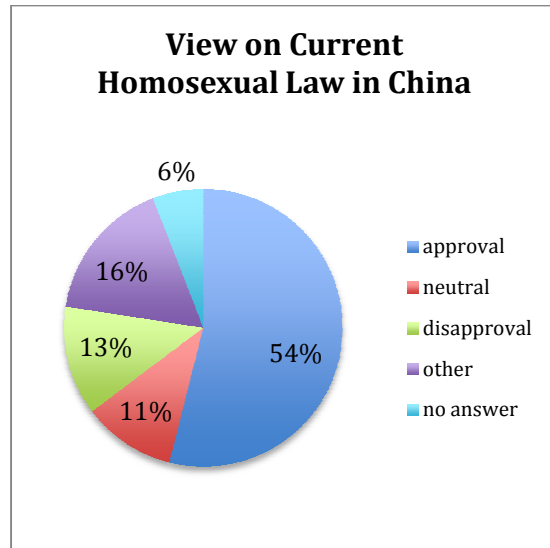


Respondents from working class families were 9% more likely to approve of current laws regarding homosexuality in China than were those from professional families.

Males

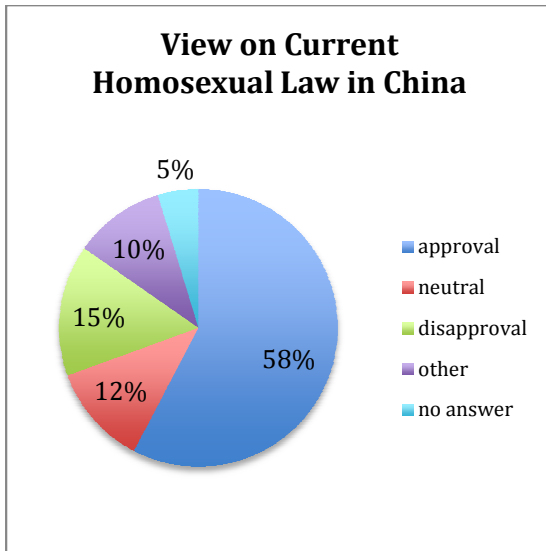


Females

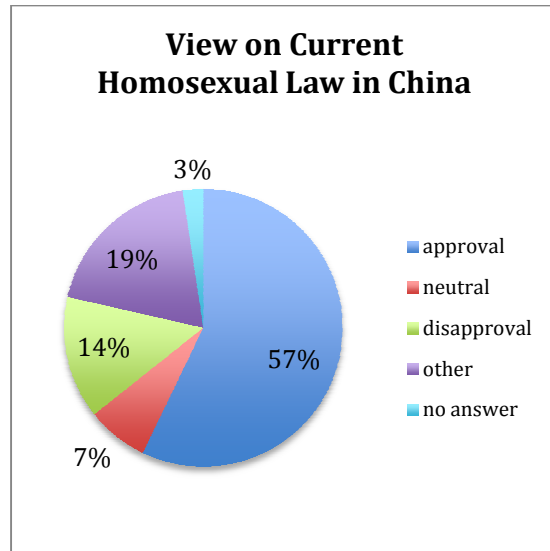


A slight majority of both males and females approved of current laws regarding homosexuality in China, while females were 6% more likely than males to state disapproval.

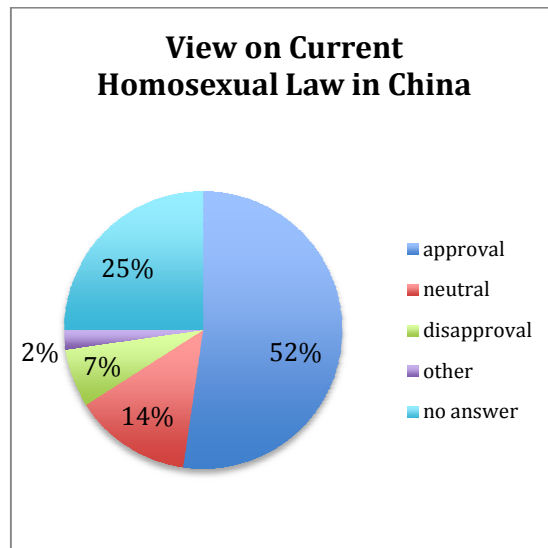
Foreign Language Majors



Soft Science Majors



Hard Science Majors



The large number of hard science majors not having answered this question once again makes comparing data between these three groups difficult, yet a slight

majority of each stated that they approved of current laws regarding homosexuality in China.

Question B4

Homosexual Marriage's Future in China

Original Chinese: 你认为中国将来有同性恋的婚姻吗？

1. 认为
2. 不认为

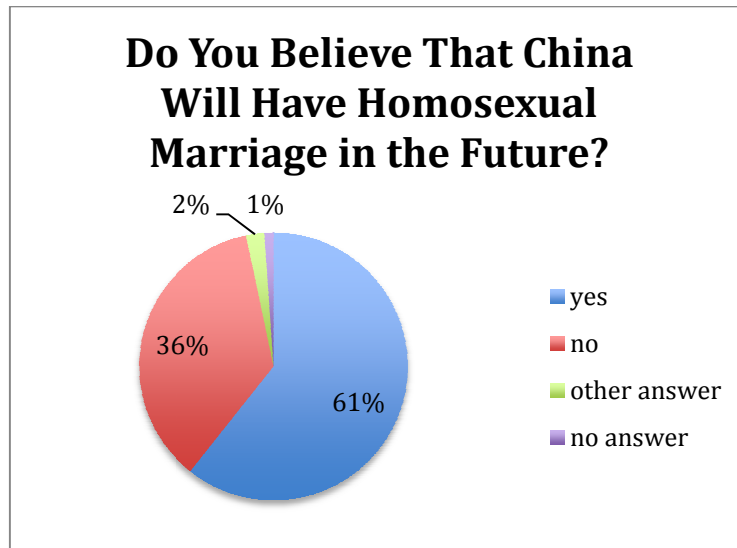
认为的话，要多久来？为什么？

English Translation: Do you believe that Chinese will have homosexual marriage in the future?

1. Believes
2. Doesn't believe

If so, how long? Why?

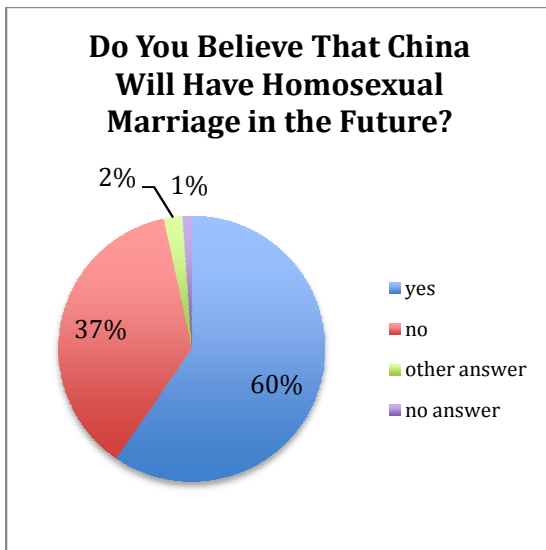
Overall Results



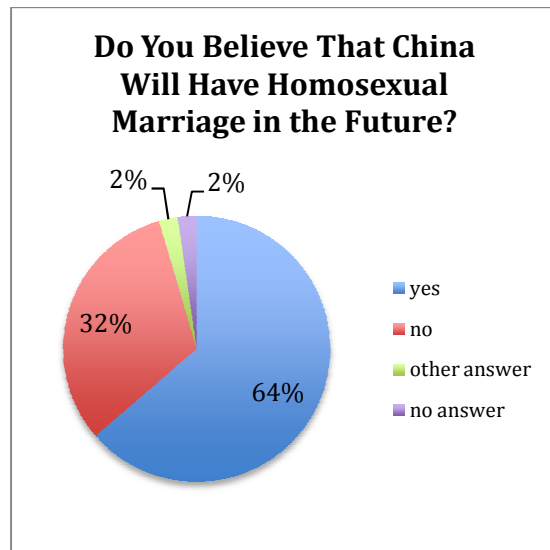
The majority of respondents believed that China would have homosexual marriage in the future at 61%, while 36% of respondents did not believe so.

Comparative Results

Parents' Occupation Is Professional

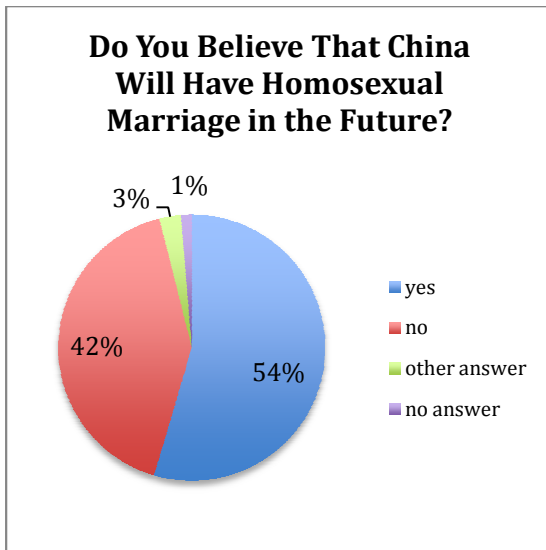


Parents' Occupation Is Working Class

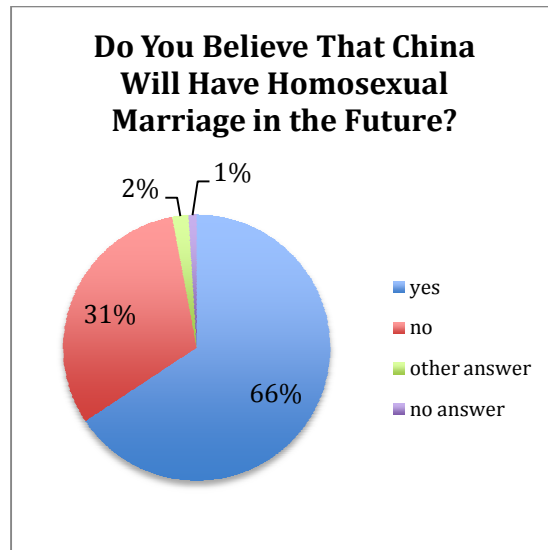


There is little difference between the responses from those coming from professional families and those coming from the working class. The majority of both groups believed that China would have homosexual marriage in the future, with respondents from professional families slightly less likely to believe so than those from working class families.

Males

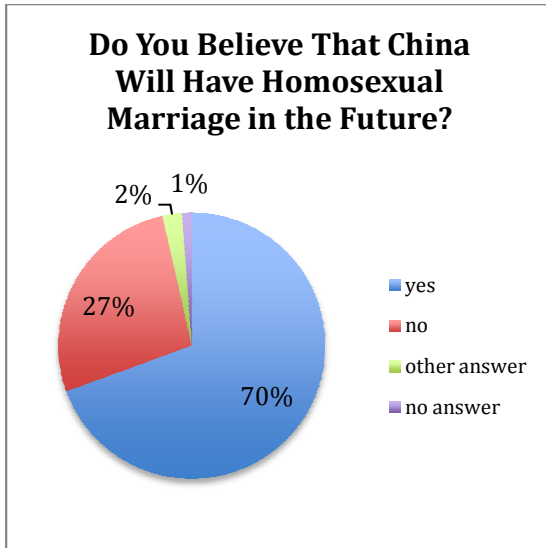


Females

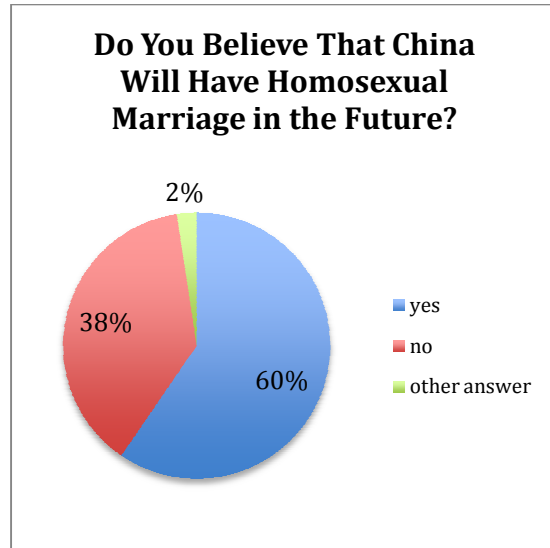


Females were more likely to believe that China would have homosexual marriage in the future than were males, with females being at 66% compared to 54% of males.

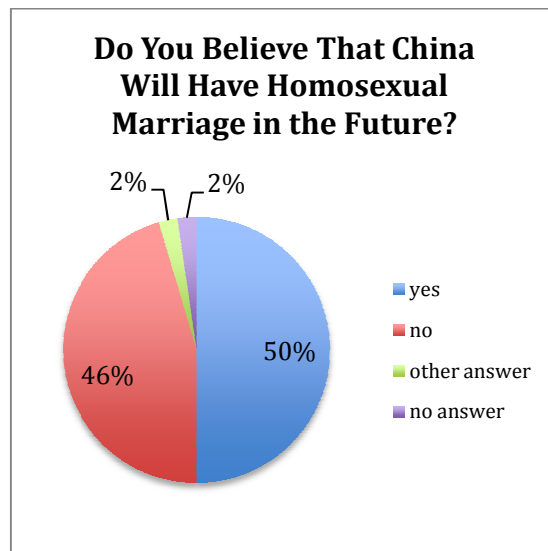
Foreign Language Major



Soft Science Major

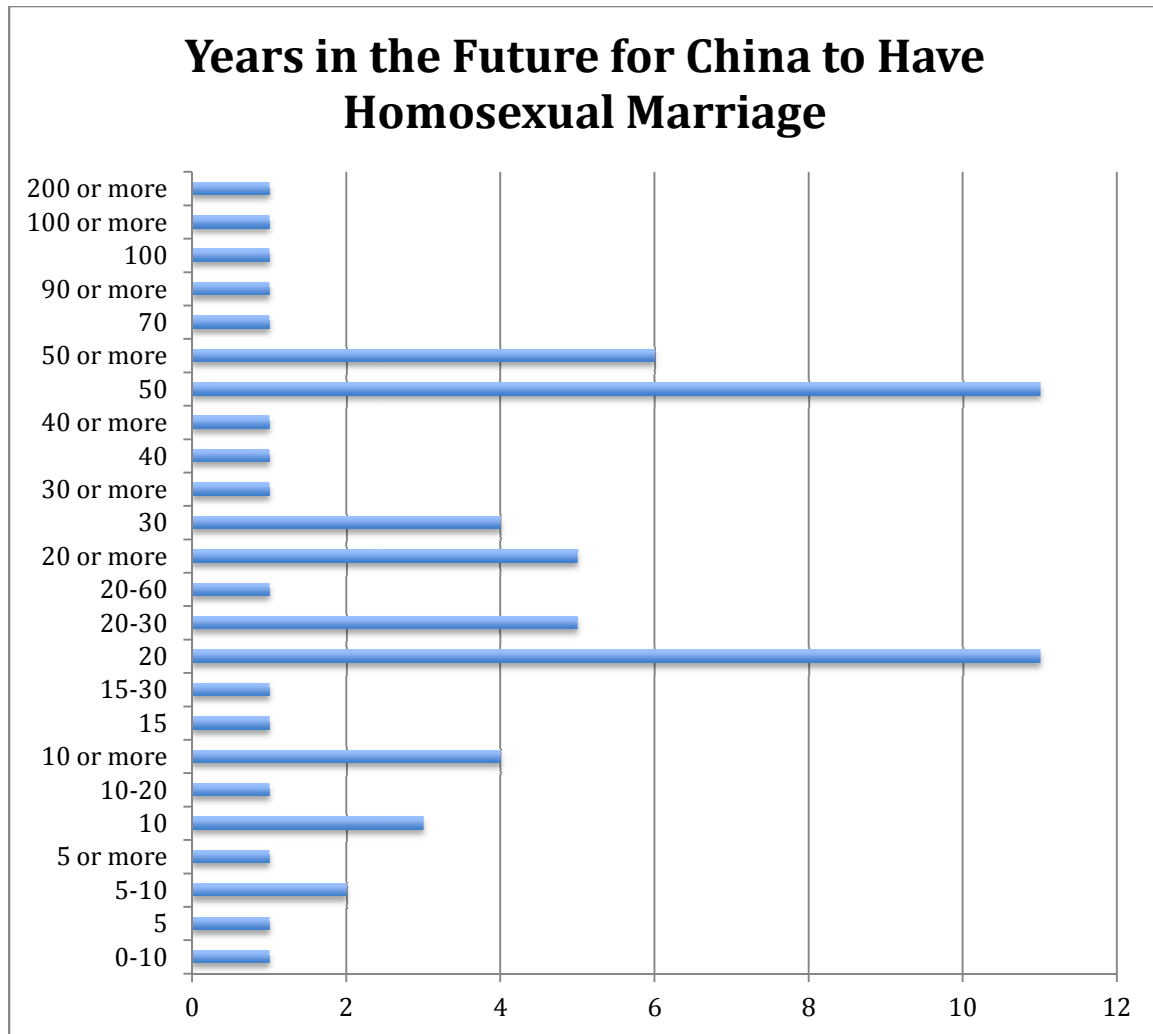


Hard Science Major



These three groups followed a trend of a 10% decrease in those who believed China would have homosexual marriage, with foreign language majors being the most likely to believe so at 70%, followed by soft science majors at 60%, and hard science majors being least likely to believe so at 50%.

Years Given for China to Have Homosexual Marriage



The majority of responses given for how long it would take for China to have homosexual marriage fell between ten and thirty years from the present, while a second spike occurred around fifty years and fifty years or more from the present.

Question C1

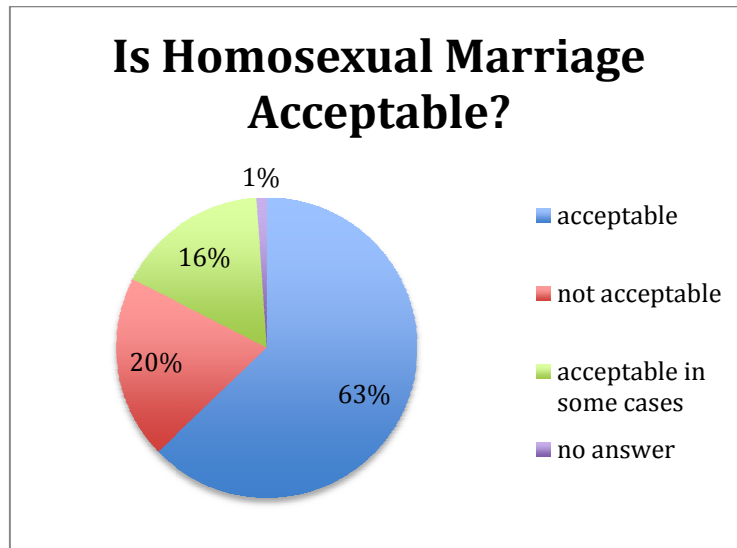
Acceptability of Homosexual Marriage

Original Chinese: 同性恋的婚姻可以不可以？

1. 可以
2. 不可以
3. 在有的情况可以，在有的不可以

English Translation: Is homosexual marriage acceptable?

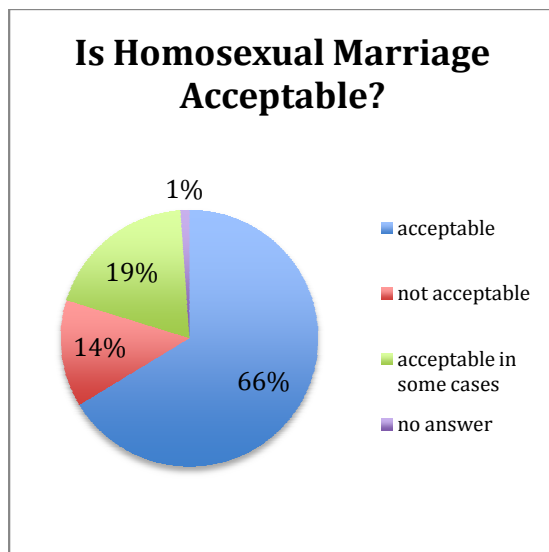
1. Acceptable
2. Not acceptable
3. In some cases acceptable, in others not acceptable

Overall Results

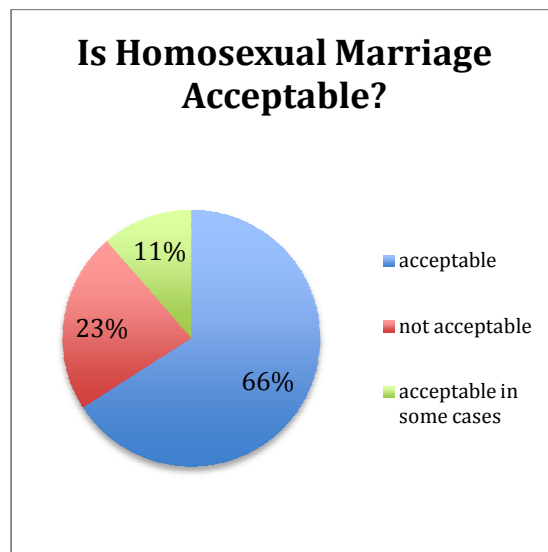
The majority of respondent found homosexual marriage to be acceptable at 63%, while an additional 16% found it to be acceptable in some situations. 20% of respondents stated that it was unacceptable.

Comparative Results

Parents' Occupation Is Professional



Parents' Occupation Is Working Class



The majority of both groups found homosexual marriage to be acceptable, both at 66%. Respondents from working class families were more likely to find it unacceptable than those from professional families, who were more likely to find it acceptable in some situations.

Male



Female

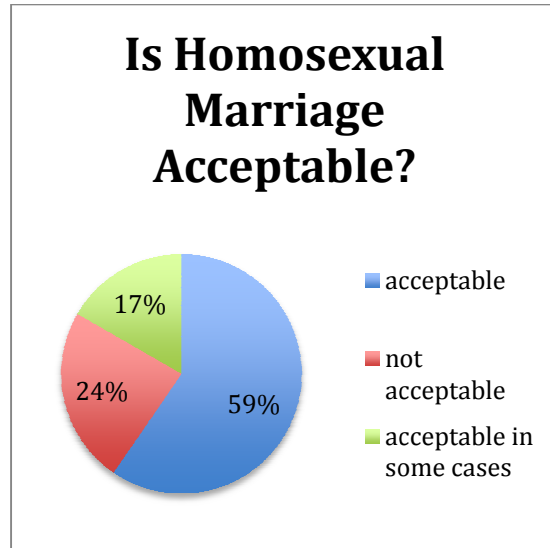


Females were more likely to find homosexual marriage acceptable at 69% than were males at 55%, while 18% of females and 14% of males found it acceptable in some situations.

Foreign Language Major



Soft Science Major



Hard Science Major



Foreign language majors were the most likely to find homosexual marriage acceptable at 73%, while hard science majors were the least likely at 50%. Both soft and hard science majors were around 10% more likely to find it unacceptable than were foreign languages majors, while hard science majors were most likely to find it acceptable in some situations at 23%, with foreign language majors least likely at 13%.

Question C2

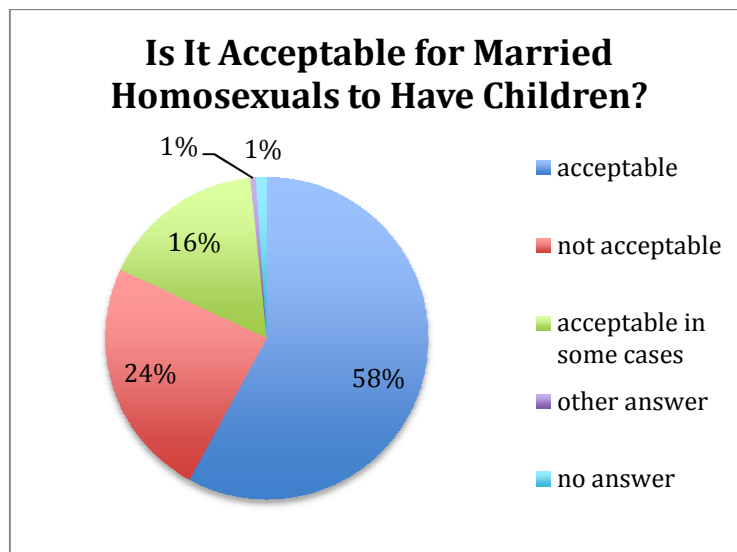
Having Children

Original Chinese: 已经结过婚了的同性恋者可以不可以有孩子？

1. 可以
2. 不可以
3. 在有的情况可以，在有的不可以

English Translation: Is it acceptable for married homosexuals to have children?

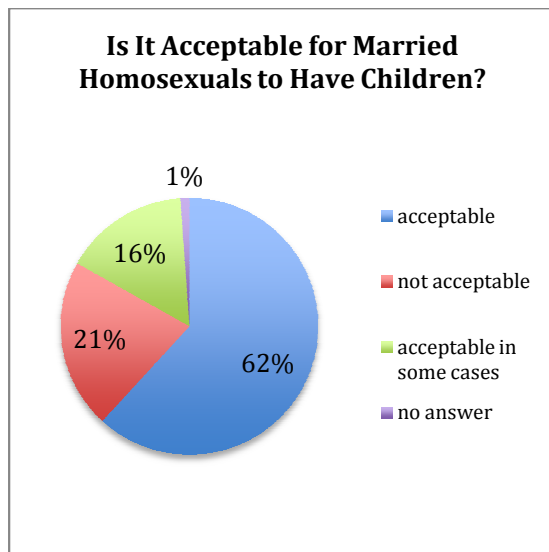
1. Acceptable
2. Not acceptable
3. In some cases acceptable, in others not acceptable

Overall Results

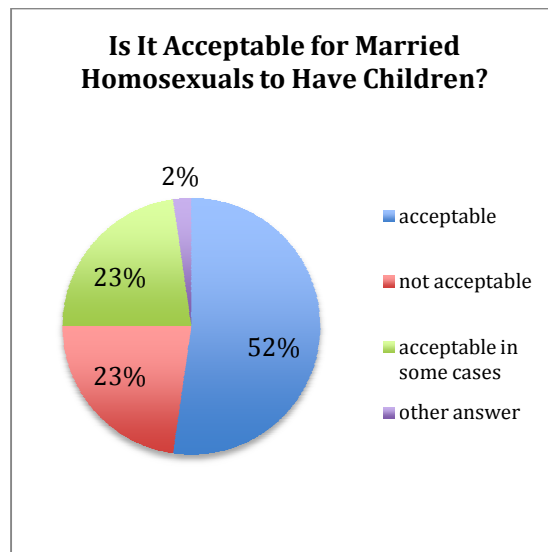
Overall trends showed a slight majority of respondents stating that it is acceptable for married homosexuals to have children, with an additional 16% saying that it is acceptable in some situations. 24% of respondents stated that it is not acceptable.

Comparative Results

Parents' Occupation Is Professional

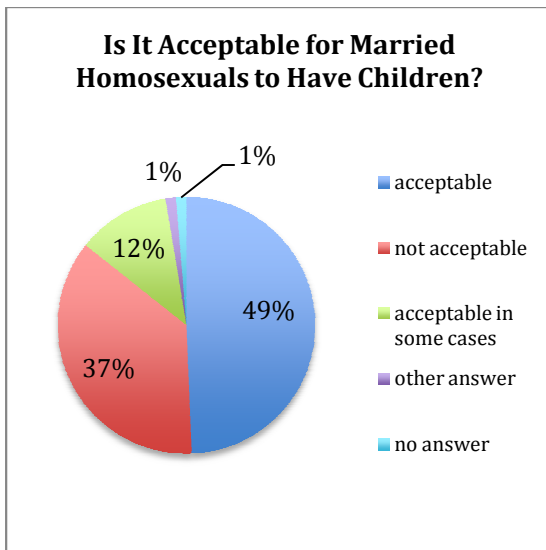


Parents' Occupation Is Working Class

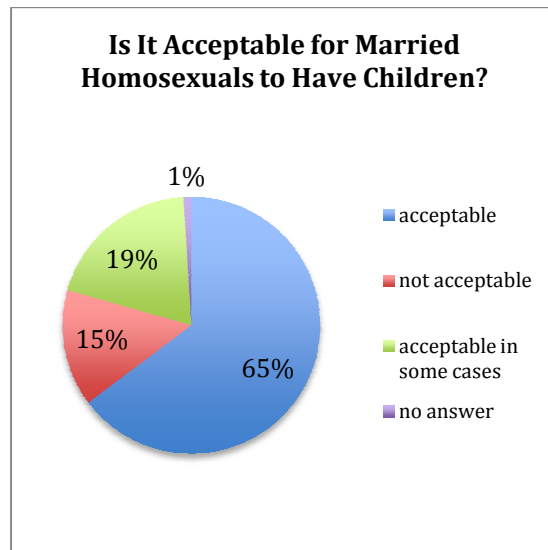


Respondents from professional families were 10% more likely to find married homosexuals having children acceptable than were those from working class families. The percentage of those who responded that it was unacceptable was similar between the two groups, with those from professional families at 21% and those from working class families at 23%.

Male

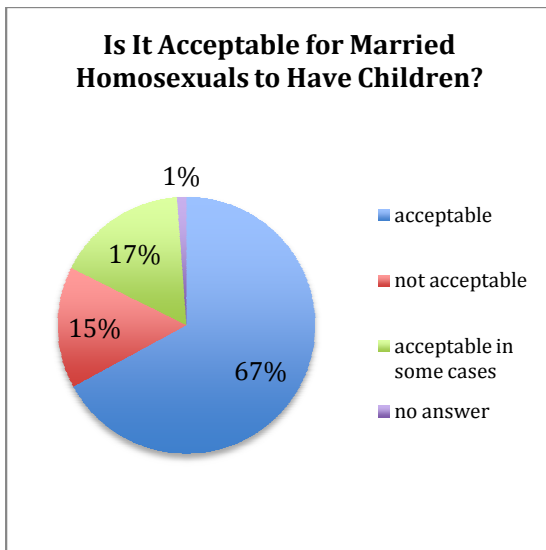


Female

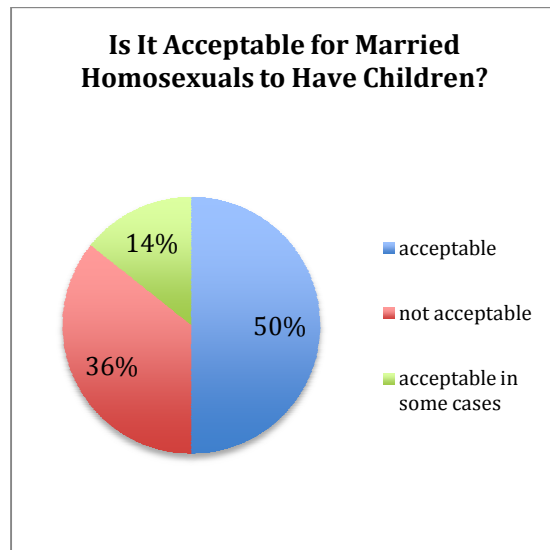


The majority of female respondent found married homosexuals having children acceptable, while only half of male respondents did so. 37% of male respondents stated that it was unacceptable, compared to 15% of female respondents.

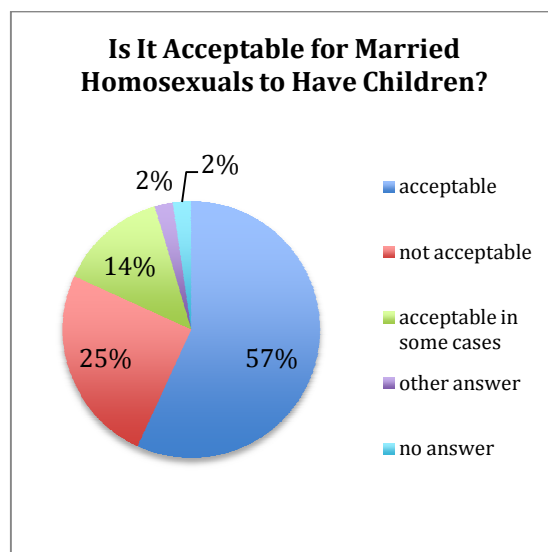
Foreign Language Major



Soft Science Major



Hard Science Major



Foreign language majors were most likely to find married homosexuals having children acceptable at 67%, while soft science majors were least likely at 50%. Those who answered that it was not acceptable followed a trend of a ten percent increase between the groups, with foreign language majors the lowest at 15% and soft science majors the highest at 36%.

Question C3

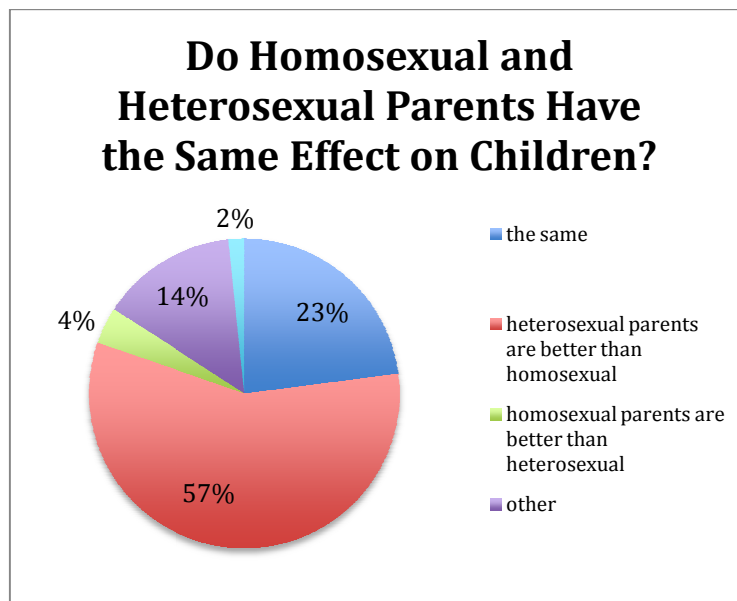
Effect on Children

Original Chinese: 对孩子来说，同性恋的父母和异性恋的父母有一样的好处吗？

1. 一样的
2. 异性恋比同性恋好
3. 同性恋比异性恋好
4. 别的回答（请在下面写上）

English Translation: Do homosexual parents and heterosexual parents have the same benefits for children?

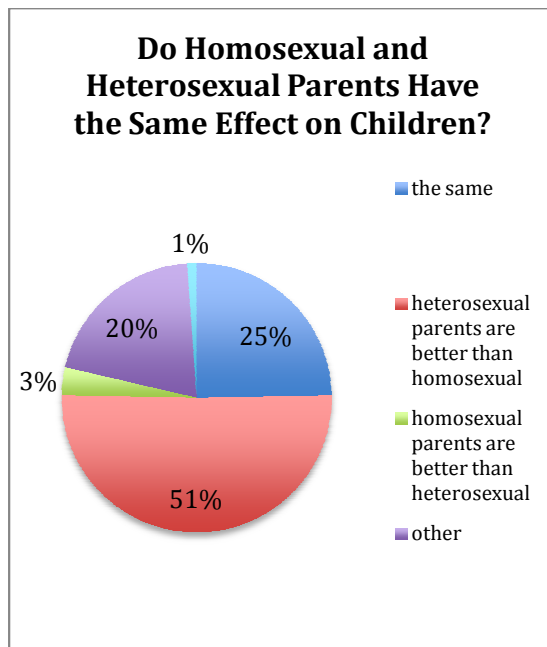
1. The same
2. Heterosexual parents are better than homosexual
3. Homosexual parents are better than heterosexual
4. Other (please write below)

Overall Results

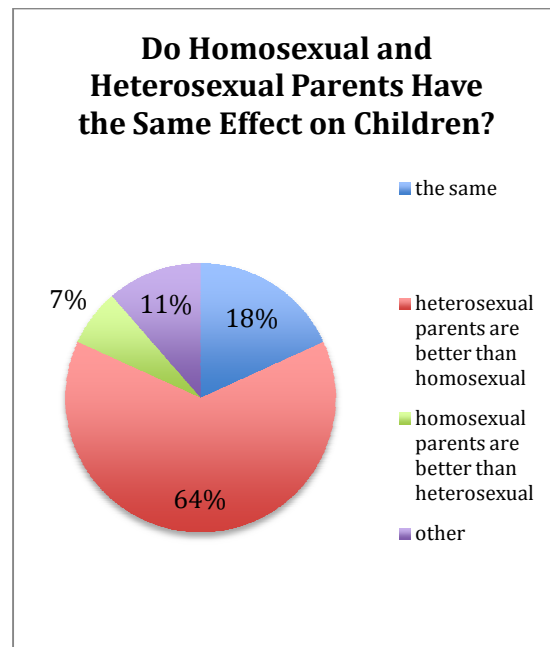
The majority of respondents believed that heterosexual parents had a better effect on children than did homosexual parents, and 23% believed both to have the same effect. Only 4% of respondents believed homosexual parents to have a better effect than heterosexual parents.

Comparative Results

Parents' Occupation Is Professional

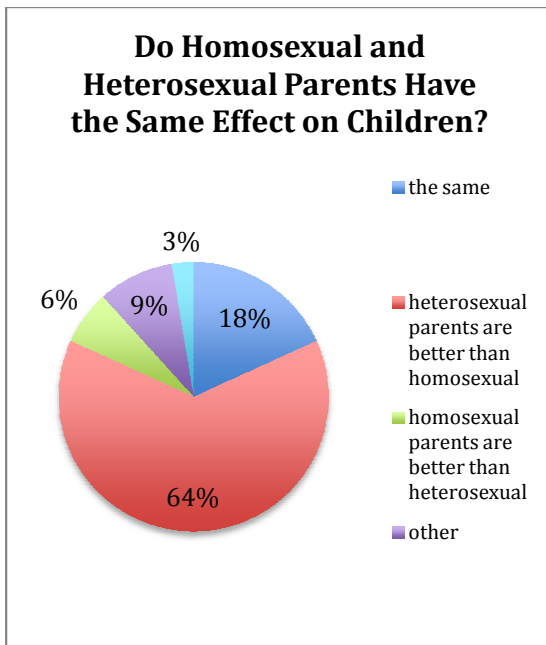


Parents' Occupation Is Working Class

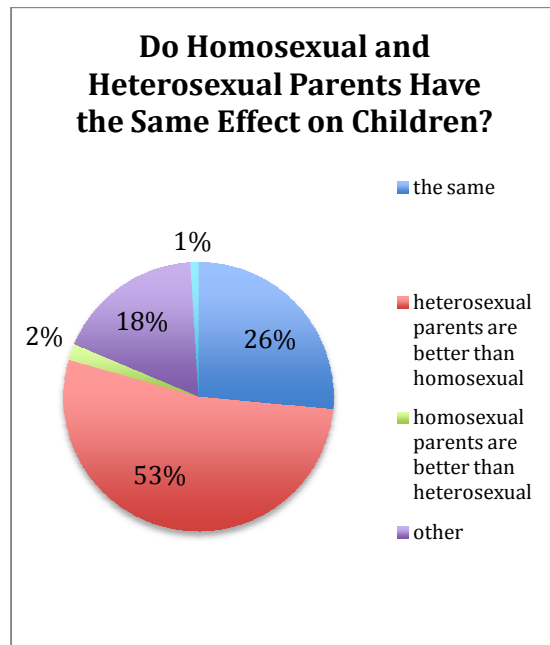


64% of respondents from working class families believed heterosexual parents to have a better effect on children, while 51% of those from professional families believed so. Respondents from working class families were also 7% less likely to believe both homosexual and heterosexual parents to have the same effect than were those from professional families.

Male

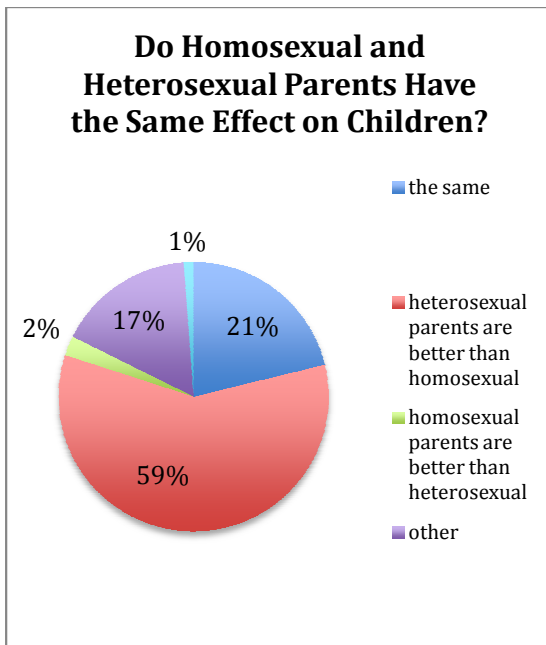


Female

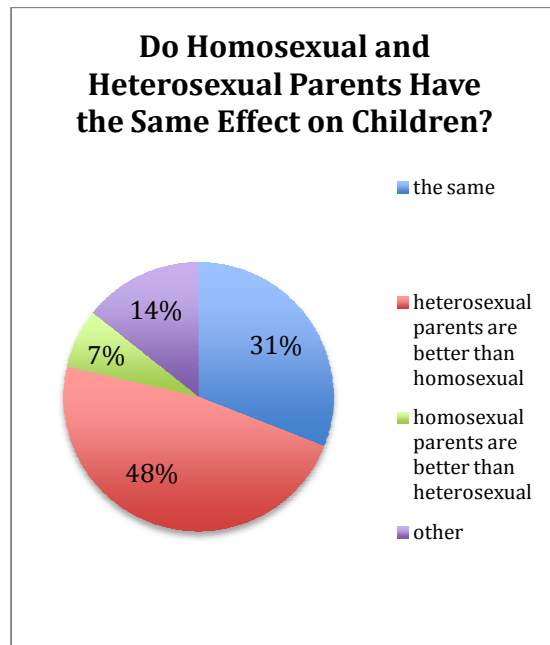


Males were 11% more likely than females to believe heterosexual parents have a better effect on children than homosexual parents, and 8% less likely than females to believe that both had the same effect.

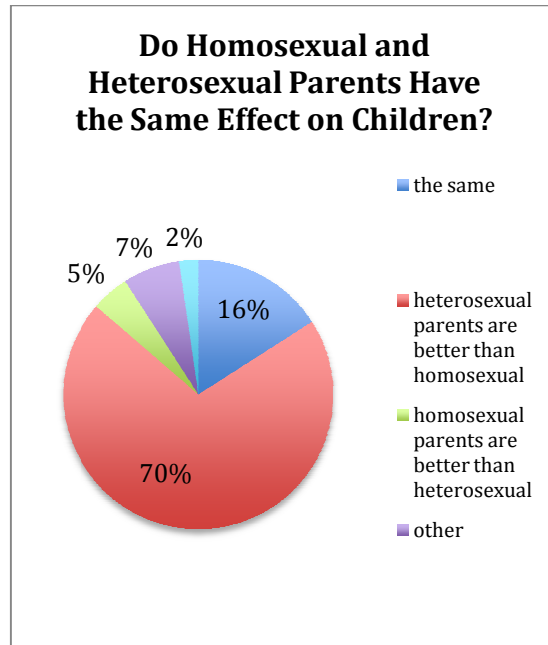
Foreign Language Major



Soft Science Major



Hard Science Major



Hard science majors were most likely to believe heterosexual parents to have a better effect on children than homosexual parents at 70%, while soft science majors were the least likely at 48%. Soft science majors were, in turn, the most likely to believe both had the same effect on children at 31%, with hard science majors the least likely at 16%.

Conclusion

Overall, while respondents held mixed views of homosexuality itself and what its cause is, there was less issue with other people being homosexual and expressing it in public. A little under half of respondents state that homosexuality is acceptable, yet the majority of respondents stated that homosexuals could come out in public, should not become heterosexual, and should not face criminalization or the death penalty for being homosexual. Yet it must be noted that slightly over half of respondents stated that they felt differently towards gay men as they do towards lesbians, and so their answers may or may not apply equally for both.

In terms of the present situation for homosexuals in China, the majority of respondents acknowledged that it was either bad or not at the same level as heterosexuals. Respondents' opinions on general Chinese attitudes towards homosexuality were mixed, yet the beliefs that all Chinese held negative views and that only urban and younger Chinese held positive views made up the majority of responses. Despite this acknowledgement of the negative circumstances facing homosexuals in China, respondents still had a slight majority approval of the current "don't support, don't oppose, don't promote" law, with only one tenth stating disapproval.

Regarding homosexual marriage and its future within China, respondents held more positive views, with the majority believing that China would have homosexual marriage in the future and stating that both homosexual marriage and married homosexual couples having children are acceptable. When asked for a time frame in which homosexual marriage would be realized in China, the majority of respondents either answered within ten to thirty years or answered fifty or more years. While respondents held generally accepting views of homosexual marriage and having children, the majority still believed that heterosexual parents ultimately had a better effect upon children than did homosexual parents.

Turning to parents' occupation, respondents from professional families tended to have slightly more positive views of homosexuality than did those from working class backgrounds, as well as fewer respondents holding different opinions towards gay men and lesbians. Yet overall neither group differed greatly in comparison to the overall trends previously noted.

Next looking at gender identity, this variable was found to have had the greatest effect upon a respondents' answers, with male respondents being much less accepting of homosexuality and much more likely to hold different opinions towards gay men and lesbians than females. Only slightly above half of male respondents believed that homosexuality should be legal, and they believed Chinese people to have more negative views of homosexuality than females. In terms of homosexual marriage and its future in China there was less difference, but while a majority of female respondents stated that it was acceptable for married homosexuals to have children, slightly less than half of males stated so, while a greater majority of males believed heterosexual parents to have a better effect on children than did females.

Finally, trends among the three categories of majors were not as strong, having greater variation than the other categories. The overall pattern was that foreign language majors had the most positive views of homosexuality, followed by soft science majors, and with hard science majors holding the most negative views. This pattern held true in terms of homosexual marriage and married homosexuals having children as well.

In brief, the main findings from the data are that while opinion of homosexuality remains mixed among Shandong University students, the majority is accepting of others being homosexual and expressing it in public. The majority of the students acknowledged the current situation in China as somewhat negative for homosexuals, and yet supported the current law regarding homosexuality. Students also tended to believe that homosexual marriage was acceptable and would

eventually be legalized in China, and that married homosexuals could have children, but that heterosexual parents had a better effect upon children. Gender plays the greatest role in determining a student's views, with females more accepting of homosexuality than males, whereas parents' occupation plays less of a role with those from professional families having slightly more positive views of homosexuality. Major at university shows less clear patterns of influence on students' views.

It is my hope that this data will be useful to future research in the area of LGBT studies in the People's Republic of China, and will expand the present knowledge and resource base in the subject.

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